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VOLUME LXV, NUMBER 19815

6 International

India's missed opportunity



12 Gardener's Corner

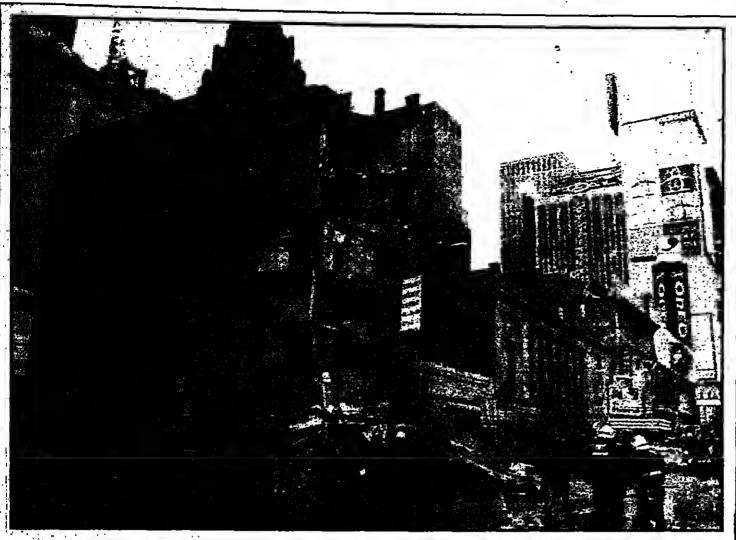
The knight's



Tiger, Martina top '97 athletes

### INDEX Arts & Entertainment Family Matters ... Movies, TV, Crossword

NIS 4.50 (EILAT NIS 3.85)



Times Square collapse

Less than 48 hours before the streets around Times Square would be packed with New Year's celebrants, a six-story building on 42nd Street partially collapsed yesterday, sending concrete chunks raining down onto the sidewalk. No one was injured in the gire dawn accident. The building, which was unoccupied and slated for demolition, held balloons for the traditional celebration, which draws lumdreds of thousands of people. The miraculous avoidance of injury or death in a bailding callapse in the heart of New York will provide additional cause for celebration this year. Full story, Page 7.

# Gov't pushes for budget vote tonight

### By DAYID HARRIS

The government is hoping for a final Knesset vote on the 1998 state budget and its arrangement bill late tonight, after Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu secured a coalition majority yes-

The government gained the support of a variety of coalition members, iocluding those from Yisrael Ba'aliya and Moledet. While United Torah Judaism MKs Meir Porush and Shmuel Halpert said last night they are still not voting with the coalition, Gesher was expected to come around.

We are very close to an agreement. It's just an issue of one word here and one word there," Gesher MK Miehael Kleiner said. "It's impossible to ignore the fact that others also haven't received everything."

Netanyahu spent some 24 hours since Monday persuading coalition parties to vote with the govemment in return for budgetary eoocessions. The longest talks

were held with Yisrael Ba'aliya, which last night was still demanding written confirmation for a variety of promises from Netanyahu and Fioance Minister

Yaakov Neeman. Key to receiving the party's seven votes was Netaoyahu's reported agreement to establish a ministerial committee to examine how to update government mort-

The NRP received most of what

### **Public hospitals continue** strike today, Page 2

had demanded, particularly in the sphere of education.

"We didn't receive anything," said MK Zvi Hendel. The people of Israel did."

The agreements were mainly reached with Neeman and his seolor civil servants, with Netanyahu involved in some of the work. The NRP is satisfied

that the government will keep to its word and is not demanding written documentation, said

"There is no document, there will be no document, just the fact that all of Israel will benefit," he

Moledet's support came at the relatively low price of some NIS 50 million, but party leader Rehavam Ze'evi said money was not the main issue at stake.

"At the end of the day there's a country, and those that care about the country couldn't allow the situadon to further deteriorate," said As of last eight only United

Torah Judaism and Gesher had yet to fall into line with the coalitioo. The haredi party is ealling for additional funding for its constituency, while Gesher is demanding that an agreement reached last summer between Foreign Minister David Levy and Netanyahu be upheld.

"We won't be part of a government that harms the same people that voted it into power," Gesher MK Maxim Levy said last night.

Both the coalioon and opposition now agree the budget will pass or fail on the Treasury's bealth-care proposals, to be intro-

"Everything depends on the health law," said eoalitioo whip Meir Sheetrit (Likud).

The other main concern for Netanyahu is which way rightwing MKs will vote on the third reading of the budget. MK Ze'ev Begin is leading a small group which says it will not support the government until it receives commitments on the size of the next redeployment in the territories.

Once it became clear yesterday morning that the coalidon was falling into line on the budget, Labor demanded to know what had been agreed to overnight, saying the public bas a right to know. Neeman told the House there were no signed agreements. but he would inform the plenum as soon as there were.

With the key budget votes set for midnight tonight, any written agreemeots had to be laid before the Knesset no later than mid-

night last night.
Opposition MKs lead by former finance minister Avraham Shohat and Labor Party budget coordinator Haggai Merom claimed the Treasury had failed in its bid to keep the 1998 budget deficit to less than 2.4 percent of the gross domestic product by cutting NIS 2.3 billion from the budget.

See BUDGET, Page 2

# Susskin convicted How much does the coalition vote cost? of putting up pig flyer in Hebron

Sentencing due today

said he was "hopeful that she'll

get no more than one year," as she "didn't go there to incite World War III."

Casper said his client's right to

"It's time this country set out a

bill of rights ... so people will know whether a picture they draw or a postcard they send is a

Susskin faces up to 20 years on

racist act," he said.

Tatiana Susskin

the charge of endangering buman

She then posted them on some 20 houses. Because it was close

to Shabbat, it was decided not to

arrest her but to wait until after

Bot the next afternoon, after

Susskin threw a stone at a pass-

ing car and damaged it, she was

The pig posters triggered out-rage throughout the Moslem

world, including angry street protests in Bangladesh and Iran,

and rulings by Moslem clerics

that insulting the prophet was punishable by death.

Israeli leaders condemned

Susskin's accous and apologized

to Moslems.

freedom of expression bad been

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER \_ .

s ithdra

and news agencies .

Tatiana Susskin faces up to 26 years in prison at her sentencing today, following her conviction yesterday for putting op posters in Hebron depicting Mohammed

as a pig.
The 26-year-old Susskin wept as the verdict was read in Jerusalem District Court. She told reporters afterward that "I have no regrets for what I have

She was convicted of committing a racist act, supporting a terrorist-organization, attempting to give religious offense and attempted vandalism.

She also was convicted of endangering life for throwing rocks at Arab drivers. in announcing the verdict, Judge Zvi Segal said that free-

don of expression did not give

Susskin the right to do what she The accused does not have and never had the right to enter parts of Hebron populated only by Moslems and to paste up these

posters," he said in court. Reacting to the verdict, Susskin said, "I don't agree with what he decided. It's a shame in see that all the heavies scharged with criminal offenses] get out, but small people like me don't."

During her trial, Susskin, a supporter of the outlawed Kach movement, said she suffered from "confusion and disturbances" and was treated in psychiatric hospitals in her native Russia. She made aliya six years ago, but said she returned twice to Russia because of emotional

Her lawyer, Shannel Casper,



No one was prepared to say exactly bow much the evalidon budget vote would cost the country nor where the additional funds would be found. However, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday was seen smiling for the first time in the plenum since the budget debate began last week.

Yisrael Ba'aliya said it is satisfied with the following promises made by Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman:

· Those on income support will receive additional help, after a number of years with no opdate in payments. Knesset sources suggested a 25 percent update, the equivalent of NIS 50 million.

 Mortgages for the disadvantaged will be updated in line with the decision of a committee headed by Netanyahu that is to include Foreign Minister David Levy, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, and Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein. The committee will decided how to spend the NIS 600m. put aside for this purpose. Knesset sources said last night that Neeman has let it be known the reserves could be stretched to NIS 900m; with the overall update reaching NIS 1 billion - the remaining NIS 100m. to be found from alternative

· By the end of February, there will be a further committee decision on provision of land for rent for non-profit organizations and hos-

· Special university programs will receive NIS 25m., which is already accounted for by the Treasury, according to Knesset sources. · There will be capital transfers from the Construction and Housing and Industry and

# BUDGET '98

By DAVID HARRIS

Trade ministries to fund immigration and education, according to Knesset sources. · A further NIS 50m. will be made available to new immigrants who were swindled in tran-

NRP MK Zvi Hendel said yesterday that the party has received all that it demanded from

the Treasury: All the school hours cut in the last two years - some 30,000 - will be reinstated, with an additional 10,000 hours, at a cost of NIS

 As of January 1, long school days will commence in 100 localities. This agreement is valued at NIS 50m.

· There will be a substandal reduccion in fees for those attending hesder yeshivot, who now pay NIS 8,000 per annum for board and lodg-

• Twenty groups of young people will receive additional government aid to allow them to help regenerate development towns and other areas of the country. • Three road-construction programs will be

carried out in Judea and Samaria. One road will link Gush Etzion with Kiryat Arba, bypassiog El Arub; another will circle Bethlehem eastwards in the direction of Tekoa; and an east-west road will be laid in northern Samaria, near Bara El Shakia.

· Water Commissioner Meir Ben-Meir will consider an NIS 150m. request to continue

### separating Palestinian and Israeli water supplies in the territories.

· Some 150 state-funded apartments will be built in areas far from the center of the coun-· An additional NIS 30m. will be transferred

to agriculture in priority zone B areas to allow for the transidon from low- to high-tech farm-

Moledet said it was promised nine items by Netanyahti: . A religious studies center will be opened at

Rehalim within 60 days. · A road will be constructed linking Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem to the "tunnel road" from Jerusalem to Gush Etzioo, and a bus route will be operated between Jerusalem and the tomb.

Loans of NIS 100,000 will be granted to Ma'aleb Ephraim, Kiryat Arba, Netzarim, Kfar Darom, and Morag - 50% will become a

. The prime minister will work to grant a broadcasong license to the Arutz 7 radio staoon within 90 days.

The grave of Avner Ben-Ner will be opened to visitors. · A bypass road will be built from Talmon-

Nahliel to Kiryat Sefer. · A Moleder representative will be appointed to the Israel Broadcasting Authority plenum. . There will be an increase in the budget of

the Agriculture Ministry's Green Patrol.

Some NIS 30m. will be put aside for housing, with Moledet having a say in where the money is spent.

MK Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) agreed to vote with the government in return for being appointed a deputy speaker of the Knesset.

# Fighting a many-headed serpent

life on the road and one to three Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has smitten several of years on the other charges. The flyer incident occurred on the heads springing from the polit-June 27, when Susskin entered ical Hydra seemiogly out to get him. He is no longer endangered by the NRP, Yisrael Ba'aliya, Tsomet, the Third Way and eveo the Palestinian Authority-controlled territory with a number of leaflets showing a pig labeled "Mohammed" writing the Koran.

> But though be lops off head after head, the serpent with which he had been grappling keeps produc-ing new heads. Now, menacingly showing its teeth Is Gesber, accompanied by Uoited Torah Judaism, which has so far been the quietest coalidon member in the great budget tussie. In past years, UTI was on the front lines from

the onset of the struggle. Given Netanyahu's track record yesterday, the odds now are, say political pundits in all corners of the arena, that he will strike down the terrible Hydra. But it will take a while longer. He cannot yet afford to let down his guard and

**ANALYSIS** By SARAH HONIG

Though be mustered a majority in the budget-related Knesset votes yesterday, he is not entirely out of the woods. Yesterday - per-haps by coincidence and most likely not - the Hydra grew two heads simultaneously. Neither Gesher oor UTJ alone can bring down his government. Gesher and UTI together do imperil the coalioon majority. This will mean that the price they can exact by cooperating will be all the greater.
Netanyahu will be unable to ignore either faction and heoce

will have to mollify both. Gesher has been the most aggressive adversary with which Netanyahu has had to contend.

Even yesterday, after Netanyahu had triumphed over other threats, the Gesher MKs did not simply withhold their support from his government. They actually betrayed it by voting with the opposition. Had Netanyahu been able to afford a break with Gesher, this would have been the time to dump the faction, but Netanyahu dare not put Gesher io its place.

He will have to buy it off. UTJ, once it chose to finally appear on the field of battle, did so with its biggest guns blazing. It will sponsor a no-confidence vote, its MKs declared after meeting Netanyahu and demanding more than his opening offer for haredi

housing projects.

The feeling in the coalidon is that if Netanyahu got out of far more complex binds, he will manage to make peace with UTJ as well.

See SERPENT, Page 2

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has gone

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; **2** 

in brief

### Security forces on high alert for Ramadan

Security forces were on high alert yesterday, against the possi-hility of terrorist attacks by Jewish extremists against Palestinians as thousands of Moslems marked the first day of the month-long Ramadan holiday yesterday.

Police beefed up their presence in eastern Jerusalem as Moslem worshippers flocked to the El Aqsa Mosque for prayers. IDF forces also reportedly beefed up their presence in Samaria

### Two infiltrators from Jordan captured

Security forces tracked down and captured two men who had infiltrated from Jordan, approximately two hours after they had broken through the border fence late Monday night near Kibbutz Yorvata. During the brief alert before they were apprehended, the Arava road was closed between Eilat and Kibbutz Yahel. Out of concern over a possible attack, some 2,000 members of the Bnei Akiva youth movement, on an excursion near Yotvata, were taken to the kibbutz until the alert was over.

### 4 Jordanians jailed for plotting attacks on Israel

Four Jordanian Palesticians coovicted of plotting attacks on Israelis have been senienced to 10 to 15 years imprisonment with hard labor, a Jordanian court official said yesterday. In sentencing, Judge Yousef Faouri of the State Security Court said: "The defendants' possession of arms and explosives and their plotting attacks against Israel is a threat to the national security of Jordan. Police arrested the four in July in the southwestern district of Wadi Araba from where they allegedly planned to cross the Israeli border. In their possession were two hand grenades and several automatic rifles. AP

### Court rejects Eskin's appeal against detention

The Jerusalem District Court yesterday rejected Avigdor Eskin's appeal against his continued detention. Judge Moshe Gal said that due to the oature of the investigation, and the fact that the period of detention is supposed to end in a couple of days, he saw no reason to overrule the Magistrate Court decision. Eskin was arrested 10 days ago on suspicion of planning to throw a pig's head onto the Temple Mount. Before going into the hearing, Eskin said that under the General Security Service investigative methods. "you can blame me for everything. including Arlosoroff's murder."

### Int'i observers allowed to stay in Hebron

Israel bas agreed to the renewal of the mandate for another three months of the Temporary International Presence in Hehron (TIPH), Foreign Ministry Director-General Eitan Bentsur said yesterday in a letter to Norway's amhassador.

Beotsur said Israel also would support a further extension, if this was agreeable to the Palestinians. But he added, Israel expects there to be a dialogue on the nature and role of the TIPH in order to prevent misunderstandings and ensure its

He asked the Norwegian envoy to convey the Israeli position to other countries participating in TIPH, including Turkey, Sweden, Italy, Switzerland and Denmark.

The unveiling of the matzeva for our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

### **ZELIE BAND**

will take place on Friday, January 2, 1998, at 11 a.m. at the Shikun Havatikim Cemetery, Netanya.

The Pope, Band, Stein and Gal families

The Jerusalem Elwyn Family mourns the passing of

### **MANNY (Menachem) ROTMAN**

a pioneer dedicated to improving programs for people with developmental disabilities. Our deepest condolences to Ruth, Jennie and Joe and the entire Rotman, Cass and Shime families.

Sandra Cornelias, Ph.D., President John F. Cramp, Esq., Chairman David Marcu, Executive Director

### ROTMAN, MENACHEM B.A.

Of 11 Diskin Street.

On Saturday evening, December 27, 1997 at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto.

Menachem Rotman, son of the late Chaya Yehudis and Zvi Yehuda, of Ivansk, Toronto, and Jerusalem.

Beloved husband of Ruth and the late Goldie Rotman.

Loving father and father-in-law of Jennie and Irwin Cass, Joseph & Sandy Rotman, and Owen and the late Millie Shime.

Devoted zaide of 10 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

Interment Beth Sholom Synagogue section of Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, Toronto. Shiva in Toronto.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to Na'amat, or Jerusalem-Elwyn Millie Shime Centre.

# Public hospitals continue strike

By JUDY SEGEL

The public hospitals will be run on a reduced Shahbat schedule from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. today as part of the continuing protest by the health workers unions against the Treasury's intentions to change the oational health insurance sys-

In addition, the district health offices will be closed for six hours, along with family health

encies.

' תעומד איים

WAY

(ripat halav) centers. Health fund community clinics will, however, function normally.

Health Mioister Yehoshua Matza last night "strongly denounced" the planned strike by health workers. "When negotiations are proceeding with the Treasury and we hear of progress at this moment, announcing a strike is a violation of all oorms, and I call oo them to halt every demonstrative step."

The Israel Medical Association, the Nurses' Union and the Union Administrative

Maintenance Workers called the strike on the eve of the scheduled vote by the Knesset on the arrangements hill, which includes sections that would, they charge, destroy the egalitarian national health insurance system."

The unions have been manning a protest tent aeross from the nesset for the past 10 days.

They have held a number of strikes since then. The Tel Aviv District Labor Court brought a halt to them by persuading the Treasury to discuss the workers' complaints, but the talks have so far been fruitless, as proposed changes are being negotiated in talks with the various parties in the

coalition. The unions said yesterday they felt promises made by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyaho to

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, which would in effect cancel the Treasury's proposals, will not be backed up by the Fioance Ministry when the budget goes Gold

electe etion

The hospital strike will shut for a vote. down for six hours all outpatient clinics. Only vital services - such as oncology, intensive care, emergency rooms, dialysis and neona-tal units - will function normally during the strike.

### PA lawmakers give Arafat three-month ultimatum

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Palestinian lawmakers yesterday said they would hold off resignations and no-confidence votes for three months provided that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat deals with corruption charges within the PA and ratify laws passed by the Palestinian

Legislative Council.
While some Palestinian officials appeared relieved by the decision, others claimed they were unsure if Arafat would indeed live up to his promises and meet their demands.

PLC Speaker Ahmed Qurie said the council decided to wait until March, the beginning of its next semester, to allow Arafat and the PA to approve the 37 resolutions the council has drafted - including laws on the budget, political par-ties and press freedom.

On Sanday, Arafat tried to defuse the crisis by meeting with members of his Fatah faction who comprise two thirds of the council. Following the meeting, Fatah

sources claimed Arafat had agreed to accept the resignations of 24 cabinet members prior to a reshuffle and to sign at least 18 council

Qurie said yesterday he had been informed that a cabinet reshuffle would take place soon, but other officials remained skep-

PLC member and West Bank Fatah leader Marwan Barghoun said the fact that Arafat has agreed to approve resolutions and reshuffle his cabinet after a month of pressure from Fatah is positive but not enough. "And it has not solved the crisis in relations between the

council and the authority," he said. Barghouti charged that the council has been transformed into nothing more than "a showcase of democracy by the authority.
However, PLC member and

Fatah representative in Hebron Jamal Shobaki said the council should give Arafat three months to act, and then exercise its right to hold a no-confidence vote.

### SERPENT Continued from Page 1

Gesher is not that simple a case: Much more than money is involved here. The Gesher faction is oot homogeneous and incorporates almost all the conflicting forces pulling Netanyaho in opposing directions. Foreign Minister David Levy is the cabinet's outstanding dove and has made his continued membership in the government contingent - or so he says - or further and sub-

stantial redeployment.
Gesher MK Michael Kleiner heads the Land of Israel Lobby's Force 17, which staunchly opposes. any further territorial concessions.

Gesher is embroiled in a bitter contest with Shas over who can claim credit for securing more perks for the objective is prestige, the most basic prerequisite is to produce much sound and fury and send up dramatic fireworks so those who need be impressed get the message. This means that Levy can't settle for a deal right away. Finally, Levy has no incentive to

let Netanyahu off the hook one minute before the final gong. He and most of his faction's MKs still bear deep grudges against Netanyahu, and they will tonguelash him and fray his nerves for as long as they can.

Levy will make sure that today - when the budget vote is finally due - he will be dramatically at center stage. He will grandstand in his best tradition.

The question in the coalition is what will happen after Netanyahu manages—assuming that he does— to lop off the Gesher head as well. It has been noted that Shas has not been overly vocal in the past days. As Shas is Gesher's single greatest competitor, the likelihood is that the next awesome head to be spawned

by the Hydra will be Shas's. When will it all be over? The most optimistic forecast comes from Absorption Minister Natan Sharansky, who placed his wager on late tonight. But coalition whip Meir Sheetrit (Likud) and Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon say that legally the budget session may drag till Friday noon. Both ber it will.

### TO OUR READERS

Due to technical difficulties, the 1997 photographic roundup originally scheduled to be published today will appear in Friday's issue.

### CORRECTION

A photograph published on December 23 showing the lighting of Hannkka candles at a demonstration demanding the inclusion of Alzheimer's drugs in the basket of health services incorrectly identified Dr. Shlomo Ganor. He is the husband of a patient with Alzheimer's and a member of the board of the Israel Alzheimer's Association, and not as

# Yosi Deking

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A Unity Government

# Amidst Disunity 🏋

### **Nadia Matar** wants to interview YOU on the topic:

Should there be a National Unity Government? Fax your thoughts to her at 02-993-2595 or E-mail: nmatar@netvision.net.ii by noon today, Wednesday, 31/12/97, including your name and phone number.

Tonight, Wednesday, December 31, at 9:00 p.m. Arutz 7 - English Program, 97.3 FM Radio\*

\* This hour-long program in English of "Women in Green" is broadcast every Wednesday at 9:00 p.m. Our program in Hebrew, is broadcast every Thursday morning. between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. on another Anutz 7 station - 105.2 FM

### Women in Green

P.O.B. 7352, Jerusalem. Telemesser 03-636-3549 email: yaela@jerl:co.il or michaele@netvision.net.il Visit Our Colorful and Informative WEB site to Learn More About Us: http://www.womeningreen.org

Members of the Temple Mount Faithful burn a coffin symbolizing the death of the 'State of Palestine' outside Orient House in Jerusalem yesterday, as part of a day-long protest over the Oslo peace process. it would keep within the NIS ty and not presented unreasonable demands BUDGET 207.4 hillion budget framework. Calls for early elections were largely stienced following the "The budget has so far oot been hrokeo, nor will it," said Prime Minister's Office Continued from Page 1 coalition's voting lineup yester-

With deep sorrow we announce

the passing away of dear

**Dr. Margot BECKER-PEISER** 

The funeral will take place today, 31.12.97,

at 16:00, at the Kfar Shmaryahu cemetery

With deep anguish

mourns the loss of

EVA ADELMAN n''y

Founding Chairman of World Emunah and

past National President of Emunah of America

Eva was an incomparable friend and mentor to those

who worked with her and those who followed her.

She created a linked community of religious Zionist

women around the world. We will sorely miss her

vision and wisdom.

United Israel Appeal of Canada Inc.

המגבית המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה אינק

Its Officers and Staff

deeply mourn the passing of

GORDY SCHWARTZ 5"

of Montreal, Canada

Distinguished Leader and Great Friend of Israel

We extend heartfelt condolences to

Donna, Richard and Jill

**Harvey Wolfe** 

President

Steven Ain

Executive Vice President

Max Blankstein

Chairman, IRC

Amnon Shinar

Director General

Dr. Sylvia Schonfeld, National President

**EMUNAH OF AMERICA** 

They've gone over hy ahout NIS 2.5h.," claimed Shohat, lista series of commitments to coalition parties and elemeots of the arrangements bill that have beeo withdrawo. However, the government remained confideot

ments, but rather underst

Director-General Moshe Leon. "As of now there are no agreeings. Despite what the media are saying, the coalition parties have showo coosiderable responsibili-

Family and friends

the call for an early general electioo, given the coalition's inability to work as ooe body. Section-hy-section vonog on the budget arrangements hill is to begin at 9 a.m. today.

The Finance Committee is theo to recoovene to discuss for the first time the 1998 hudget hill, including alternative Treasury proposals for the various cuts voted out by MKs, including NIS 500 million in child benefit payments.

On Monday, ministers Rafael

Eitan (Tsomet) and Avigdor Kahalani (The Third Way) led

Once the committee approves the budget bill, the plenum must discuss it for six hours before voting can begin.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon has decided that voting can contioue until Friday afternooo, but opposition MKs would like to carry the debate into next week. There is no agreement as to

the final date for discussion of the bills," said Merom. "We're not even halfway through the budget arrangements bill yet. We want to continue the debate oext week, and the week after if oec-

Uoited Torah Judaism filed a no-confidence motioo over what the party sees as budgetary discriminatioo against the haredi public. But a Labor Party spokesman said that since the motioo is unlikely to gather the oecessary 61 votes to bring the government down; it is considered more a declarative gimmick than a practical move.

Batsheva Tsur adds: The Movement for Quality Government last night threatened that it would petition the High Court of Justice unless Netaoyahu revealed details of the agreements worked out with coalition partners in order to gain their approval for the bud-

get.
Liat Collins contributed to this report.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. A Happy New Year It all

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# Goldschmidt elected Labor faction chairman

MK Elie Goldschmidt yesterday beat MK Dalia Itzik by one vote in a secret ballot to become the new Labor faction chairman, a position with

the responsibility of party whip in the

Goldschmidt was considered to be Labor leader Ehud Barak's preferred candidate. while Itzik is considered closer to former leader Shimon Peres.

tum

The result was 17 --16 with one abstention, assumed to be Ephraim Sneh.

Goldschmidt replaces MK Ra'anan Cohen, who was this week elected Labor party

Goldschmidt said the vote was close because of the stiff competition for the small number of available posts in prominent party positions, but noted the polling had been carried out in good spirits and a friendly atmosphere had prevailed throughout.

He said the job is important in helping the parliamentary fight of the opposition and in determining

bow the party is perceived by the

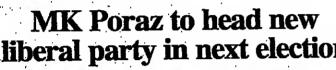
"It's particularly important as an opposition party that we go out and meet the public and not just act within the House,"

Goldschmidt "This is what I aim for us to do as soon as I take up the position." He said it was also the opposition's job to try to democratically topple the government, and I bope on my part that I will not be in this position [in the opposition] for too

long."
At the faction meeting yesterday, Itzik wished Goldschmidt success and said "it was a pleasure to see how the contest for the post was

carried out." Former Labor leader Shimon Peres praised Cohen for his contribution in the position.

. Labor leader Ehud Barak said he was sure both Itzik and Goldschmidt would continue to contribute to the party and said Cohen's appointment as secretarygeneral frees him up for his work running against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.



Elie Goldschmidt

(Israel Sup)

By DAVID HARRIS

said yesterday he is beginning the process of finding candidates interested in running with him in an independent party in the next general election.

has broken away from his Meretz colleagues and is currently a one-

"Under the new political sys-

Poraz maintains that the middle classes remain completely unrreresented in Israel and claims that no one is fighting to protect them

"The truth is Shinul already

so the basics are already in

place," said Poraz. The electoral system now allows for a vote on the peace process by supporting one candidate or another for prime minister and also a vote on economic grounds for one of the parties, added Poraz. "We must wave the

flag of liberalism." While admitting an alliance with other free-market supporters sucb as Dan Meridor (Likud) would be unlikely until after a successful conclusion to the peace process, Poraz admitted there are several MKs from across the political spectrum who agree with his views on the econ-

Saying he could not stote with the government on the 1998-state budget. Peracidid say that if the budget arrangements bill had been presented on a piecemeal basis he would have supported many of its aspects.



Rami Alon (right), of Moshav Ein Tamar in the Arava Valley, explains the art of desert aquaculture to (from left) Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan, Jewish Agency Settlement Department head Yehiel Leket and Jewish National Fund chairman Moshe Rivlin. They were attending the opening of a JNF fish farm consisting of 50 ponds that within three years is expected to supply 500 tons of fish annually.

### Lieberman said to be interested in Likud secretariat chairmanship

### By SARAH HONIG

Avigdor Lieberman, the former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, is rumored to be planning to run for chairman the Likud Party secretariat. The rumors are generating much unrest in the Likud.

Lieberman hotly denied yesterday that he plans to run, though he added that he won't let the party elite blacklist him and disqualify him for any office.

No one knows who began circulating the story, but it was enough to raise plenty of red flags among the party princes, who are already girding themselves for the battle to stop Lieberman - yet again.

The one post Lieberman did vie for since leaving the Prime Minister's Office was that of chairman of the World Likud, his party's sister entity in the World Zionist Organization. As soon as Lieberman announced his candidacy, he was challenged by

Communications Minister Limor Livnat. In the end a compromise candidate - Zalman Shoval - was installed as World Likud head. The assumption in the Likud is that if Lieberman dares toss his hat in any ring again, he would face a similar no-holds-barred

The present head of the party secretariat is Health Minister Yehoshua Matza. But the new Likud central committee has yet to elect a new party secretariat and it eventually will elect its chairman. (No fixed timetables

for these processes exist.) If Matza plans to seek reelec-tion to his old position, the odds are that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu would prevail on Lieberman not to challenge him. Despite Matza's rousing defense of his ministry's budget in recent days, he is still considered the prime minister's closest ally in the cabinet and Netanyahu is unlikely to allow him to be crossed.

# liberal party in next election

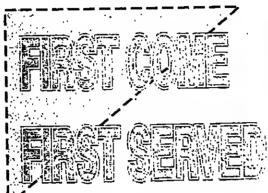
MK Avraham Poraz (Shmui)

Since the last election, Poraz man party in the Knesset.

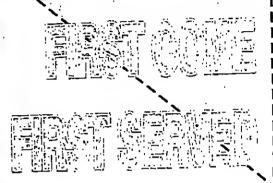
tem of a two-ticket vote, there is a chance that a small liberal party could succeed," said Poraz. "I am moving to bring in other people from places such as universities. So far no one has fully committed themselves.".

from tax increases.

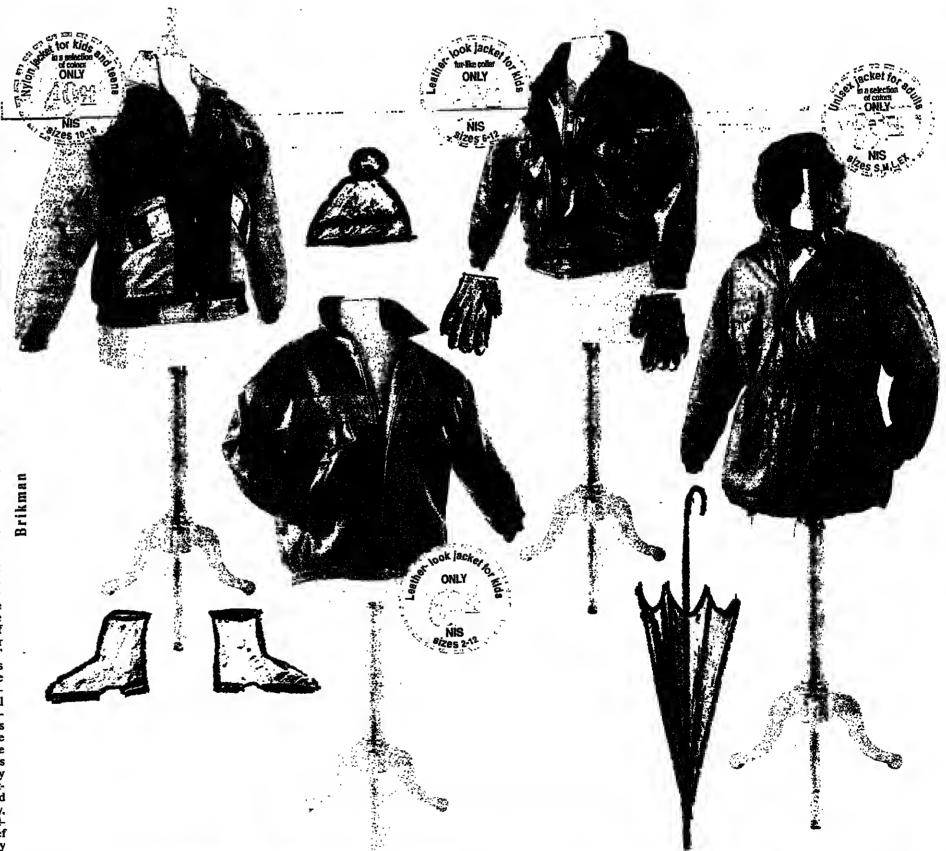
exists and has done since 1974,







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### Russian PRESS REVIEW

By Yosef Begun

### Support increases for ···· Yisrael Ba'aliya

On the eve of the 1996 Knesset elections, when most public opinion polls predicted two to five scats for Yisrael Ba'aliya, the Heker Institute accurately forecast seven seats for the party.

Results of a new poll reveal that if elections were beld today, 47% of the immigrants from the former Soviet Union would vote for Yisrael Ba'aliya, as compared to 40% in the previous election.

A positive opinion of Yisrael Ba'aliya was expressed by 73%, and 77% expressed positive feelings for party chairman Natan Sharansky.

### Chekhov's heartfelt play

Evgeny Arye, artistic director of Gesher, is staging Three Sisters by Anton Chekhov. Anton Chekhov.

Liza Chudnovsky, in Novosti

deli, says she believes that this maeli production is much more withful to Chekhov's interpretaion than Stanislavsky's famous Moscow production a century ago. Three Sisters, like Chekhov's short stories, is a play about funny, absurd and unhappy people," she writes. "They are unhappy not because of ideological reasons, but for simple, human existential ones. The characters are believable not only for Russian audiences but for spectators everywhere."

### **Budget passions stirs**

The Russian press discusses the anti-budget riots within the govemment coalition and the attempts of Prime Minister Binyamin Neranyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to reach a compromise with minimal concessions. In Vremya, Rivka
Rabinovich says, "Increased
unemployment and rising ecouomic crises call for a revision of the original budget. However, it is unrealistic to expect changes from those who 'steer' the economy. The budget, economic stagnation and unemployment may become the sandbank that will cause the government ship to run aground." The editorial in Novosti Nedeli,

however, points out that neither Netanyahu nor Neeman will be able to avoid fulfilling budgetary demands from all the coalition factions, thus the approved budget will differ considerably from the draft. For this reason, the editor-in-chief of Novosti Nedeli, Efraim Ganor, writes: "It is clear that Yisrael Ba'aliya must fight for financing the program for professional employment of immigrant scientists; expanding financial support for repairs in Amidar apartments; and increasing mortgage and rental benefits. There can be no compromises on these issues."

An entirely different approach is taken by Dov Kontorer in Vesti. He states, "Escalating social hysteria is as inappropriate today as it was in the past. After 50 years, Israel is still learning to live within its means, subordinating the volume of consumption to the tough dictates of the economy. If we don't accept this traism, our economy will burst like a bubble."

George Mordel of Vremya gives his prognosis: The fight within the coalition doesn't mean that the budget won't be ratified, if the National Religious Party overturns the government, it will get four seats instead of nine [according to the polls.] If Kleiner's team unseats the government, there are no guarantees that a new government will carry out the demands to retain all the settlements in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. According to a Shas survey. 69% of its voters won't blindly follow the directives of Ovadia Yosef and help the Left again. Is it really worth battling for new elections?"

### The 'State' of Israel

An original way to solve Israel's security problem was proposed by
A. Victorov, an activist from
Memorial, a Society for Victims of the Holocaust, Israel should change its status, Victorov believes. Monetary and moral support emanating from the US are

not accidental. Financial aid to Israel is funda-mental to US foreign policy. The arms race is escalating in Arab countries with the poteonal danger for nuclear, chemical, or germ warfare. These growing hostilities call for a qualitative leap: Israel and the US must unite as one state.



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JOST REMOVE WEAK NEWSTRANDS CHAINS OF SUPERSOL AND

# <u>NEWS</u>

in brief

### 'Ben-Ari infiltrated Israel Police'

Zvi Ben-Ari, formerly known as Gregory Lemer, succeeded in planting at least one of his men in the Israel Police and his arrest nine months ago stopped further infiltrations, according to Police Dep.-Cmdr. Moshe Mizrahi, head of the National

Speaking at a farewell ceremony for outgoing Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, Mizrahi also noted that Hefetz had been responsible for recognizing that Ben-Ari posed a dan-

Ben-Ari has been charged with carrying out bank fraud and other financial crimes totalling some \$100 million.

### Iran releases four Palestinian prisoners

Iranian officials yesterday announced the release of four Palestinians who had been arrested in the Gulf War during the

The PA's Brig.-Gen. Khader Laham said he received an announcement from Iranian officials and the four were returning to their families in Iraq. He said the officials had promised to release another twelve Palestinians still being held in Iran by

Palestinian officials praised the Iranian decision, noting that relations between the Palestinian Authority and Iran have improved since PA Chairman Yasser Arafai's trip to Teheran earlier this month.

Mohammed Najib and Margot Dudkevitch

### Reports: Jordanian diplomat's car vandalized

A Jordanian diplomat's car was attacked and damaged in a Tel Aviv neighborhood last week, Jordanian newspapers reponed vesterday.

It was the second time in three months that the diplomat's car was vandalized while it was parked outside his home, the newspapers quoted Jordan's ambassador to Israel, Omar Rifai, as

Rifai said the reason for the attacks was not known and that the unidentified diplomar was not in the car during the inci-

There was no immediate comment from Israeli officials on the incidents.

AP

### Small claims made larger

The Small Claims Court will soon be able to hear cases involving sums of up to NIS 12,000 following a new regulation signed by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi yesterday.

The regulation still has to receive formal approval from the Knesset's Law Committee. It is in line with recommendations for a reform of the court system presented by a committee headed by Supreme Court Justice Theodor Orr.

Barsheva Tsur

### Habad wins suit for Beverly Hills hanukkia

The Los Angeles Habad movement this week won a federal court appeal against a suit filed by the American Jewish Congress against the movement's lighting a hanukkia opposite the Beverly Hills Municipality.

The AIC claimed the hanukkia violated the constitutional separation of religion and state. While the suit was pending last year, the municipality denied Habad permission to put up the hanukkia.

A federal judge ruled there was no constitutional violation, since the hanukkia was not a permanent structure. As Habad representatives lit the Beverly Hills hanukkia last evening, the AJC announced it would continue its fight against the movement.

### Animal rights activists campaign in Tel Aviv

Passersby in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Center yesterday afternoon were treated to free vegetarian food courtesy of the animal rights group, Anonimous.

Group members handed out fliers encouraging a vegetarian lifestyle with a menu of soya-based dishes, listing the ingredients as "0 percent cholesterol; 0 percent blood; 0 percent

They said they tried to keep the event positive, and did not station themselves near any of the major fast-food meat chains, as well as foregoing the slogan "Meat is Murder" in favor of the less blunt: "Let ALL the Animals Live."

Anonimous activist Yossi Wolfson said that some 150 million animals are slaughtered a year in Israel for the food industry.

Givatayim man shoots wife, kills self

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

A man shot his wife four times before committing suicide at the couple's Givatayim apartment vesterday morning.

yesterday morning.
Yuval Kotzer, 37 wounded bis wife Sima, 35 and then shot himself in the head. His wife, who was hit in the chest, was admitted in serious condition to Sheba Hospital, where she underwent

The couple's two daughters, aged nine and 10, were not at home when the shooting occurred. According to an initial police investigation, Kotzer arrived at the apartment yesterday morning after his wife turned him out together

with one of the couple's daughters

the night before. According to

Kotzer's brother, he took his

daughter to his sister for the night.

shours followed by shots were heard coming from the apartment and at 10:30 a.m. the local police received a call from Kotzer's sister warning police that her brother planned to kill his wife.

A policeman phoned the apartment and spoke with Kotzer, who told him to send an ambulance, because he had shot his wife. Within five minutes police arrived at the scene and broke through a window after discovering the front door was locked.

As police were breaking into the apartment, another shot was heard as Kotzer shot himself. He left a letter at the scene.

Following news of the incident, neighbors gathered at the entrance to the apartment block in Rebov Herzog shocked by the tragedy.
"I can't believe it bappened.

Neighbors said screams and thouts followed by shots were so nice. If it happened to them, then it can happen to anybody," said one neighbor.

Yitzhak Ben-Shahak, bead of the municipality's welfare services, said the couple had been seeing a local psychologist for some months, after the headmistress of the elder daughter's school noticed she suffered from her parents' constant bickering.

The husband's relatives, who live in Kiryat Ono, were caring for the couple's children yesterday. Police said charges were filed against one of the parents four years ago for allegedly abusing one of their daughters. But police and welfare officials stressed that no further complaints had been registered with the authorities and neither the husband nor wife had lodged a complaint with them.

Man held for killing his sisters in Umm el-Fahm

By DAVID RUDGE

A man suspected of murdering two of his sisters at their bome in Umm el-Fahm was yesterday remanded in custody for 15 days by the Hadera Magistrate's Court.

Police believe that the suspect, Osid Mehajneh, 24, shot his two sisters to death with a pistol. He also allegedly fired at his father, but missed.

Mehajneh has denied the allega-

dons, claiming that he did not own a pistol and that he was in fields of Kafr Manda, near Nazareth, at the time of the double killing.

The court, however, decided that there was sufficient evidence linking the suspect with the murders, even though the weapon used has not yet been found.

spokeswoman for the Ha'amakim Police, said the incident occurred at the Mehajneh family's home ar Umm el-Fahm late on Monday

Only the suspect's parents and the two sisters, Samaher, 21, and Maislin, 15, were in the house at

the ome.

"From initial inquiries it appears that the motive for the murder was the fact that the two sisters had recently submitted a complaint to the police about their brother, which had led to a dispute," said Meirson.

The suspect was arrested in the carly hours of yesterday morning in Kafr Manda. Police believe he had gone there to try and hide among other members of the family who live in the village.

### IDF tries to make reservists feel at home

By ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

Government worker who evades reserve duty? Watch out, you may lose your job if the army has its way. Private businessperson who hassles employees for serving in reserve duty? Beware, you may lose your contracts with the defense establishment.

These are just some of the steps the IDF wants to take in its war to halt evasion of reserve duty and discrimination against those Israeli men who do serve.

Maj. Gen. Gaby Ashkenazy, assistant to the deputy chief of general staff, announced yesterday that the IDF has started implementing a series of measures to make the reserve obligation more comfort-

Research told the army what they already knew; the best way to get better use out of a reserve soldier is to focus on the relatively small bomogeneous groups of battalions.

Reserve battalion commanders have now been given greater flexibility on how they divide the mission assigned to them among their members, the idea being that they can shorten, split or even dismiss

call-up papers.

"The result is that the division of burden today is better and the average length of duty has been reduced from 24 days to, in some cases, between 10 and 17 days," Ashkenazy said. "We want the bartalion commander to handle justice in the unit."

The army has also greatly improved conditions for reserve units and has, for example procured new webbing and equipment, renovated border outposts with new dining rooms, barracks and installed air conditioning.

air conditioning.

Starting next year, battalions will be able to organize "family days," where reservists and their families will meet on a social level either at a picnic site or at the IDF's resort in Givat Olga. The army will provide funds for entertainment, Ashkenazy

He added that the three-day training period reserve soldiers undergo before general patrol duties has been greatly enhanced at the three training bases.

The plan to improve reserve con-

ditions began in the summer of 1996 and has been nearly completed, Ashkenazy said.

Reserve units have also improved their link with soldiers and installed faxes so reservists seeking dismissal on grounds of, for example, a bith, no longer need to physically appear at the unit's headquarters but can fax in a request and documents.

Noting that drivers in reserve duty bear a large brant of the burden, Ashkenazy said the army has started signing on released conscripts for "short-term regular duty" as drivers, thus reducing the need to call up reserve drivers and also helping unemployment.

helping unemployment.

Ashkenazy's announcement follows last week's ratification in the Knesset of the reserve bill, which limited the amount of days the IDF can call up citizens.

All these measures will help, but senior IDF officers quietly admit that the core of the problem rests with society. Israeli attitudes toward reserve duty are shaped nor only by their desire to be "with the guys" but from pressure put on them not to go from their families, workplace and society as a whole.

to

And this is a phenomenon that the IDF is largely prevented from confronting. Ashkenazy said the army does not accept evasion and wants laws enacted to help them fight it. He cited the two measures mentioned above as examples of what should be done.

The army has long declared that regular service would not be cut before reserve duty is shortened. Because of this, Ashkenazy said, the IDF has cut by 50 percent the mumber of reserve days over the past five years.



US Ambassador to Israel Edward Walker (I) meets with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai in Tel Aviv yesterday. (Yacl Someth/Israel Sam)

# Walker hopes for stronger strategic ties between US, Israel

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

New US Ambassador to Israel Edward Walker told Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai in their first meeting yesterday that he hopes the strategic ties between the two countries will "deepen and strengthen" during his term here, defense officials said.

"We have the highest degree of interest in sustaining Israel's defensive capabilities to meet all threats," Walker told reporters prior to the hour-long meeong. "We will work together to help you do so."

According to defense officials, Mordechai and Walker spoke of the strategic dialogue between Jerusalem and Washington, as well as cooperation in the US-supported "Homa" missile defense project, the Arrow missile and the

Karyusha-hunting Nautilus laser gun.

Mordechai raised the issue of Iran's attempts to build nuclear weapons and long-range missiles and called on the US to help halt Teberan's efforts, since it was a potential danger not only to the region but to the Western world.

Mordechai told Walker that progress was possible in the peace talks with the Palestinians

and even with Syria "if the other side understands Israel's security needs," a Defense Ministry statement said.

Mordechai invited Walker to participate in the ceremony marking the arrival of the first F-15I fighter jets, which are expected to land on January 19, a Defense Ministry statement soil. Mordechai also asked Walker to extend sea-

Mordechai also asked Walker to extend season's greetings to his US counterpart, Secretary of Defense William Cohen.

Coben was to bave visited Israel last week, but he canceled his visit to the Middle East shortly beforehand.

### Herzliya City Council member held for sexually abusing stepson

By GALIT LIPKIS BECK

A Herzliya City Council member suspected of sexually abusing his stepson and other minors was yesterday remanded in custody for six days by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Police said the suspect confessed to the charges against him and asked the court to remand him in custody to enable them to continue their investigation. The court issued a ban on the publication of his name and picture.

The suspect recorded his acovities in a diary, police said. "I feel as though I have crossed the line between the love a father bas for his son and sexual attraction towards him," he wrote in the 50-

page diary, which apparently reveals that the suspect also abused other youths.

The suspect was arrested Monday following a decision by his stepson, a 26-year old photography student residing in New York, reportedly to avenge "the person who ruined his life."

The arrest was based on a detailed complaint transferred to Herzliya Police claiming that the stepson was sexually abused over a ten-year period, since he was five.

A police search of the stepfather's house revealed pornographic films of sexual relationships between adults and minors as well as evidence suggesting that he suffers from mental problems. The suspect made up a game named "the victim" in which he engaged in indecent and abusive activities with children, said police representative Dov Dolev in the remand request submitted to Judge Rami Amir.

The suspect's wife, who is the biological mother of the stepson, was present at the legal hearing and maintained she did not know anything about her husband's acovities. She said he had showed deep concern for his stepson's well-being and cared for him deeply.

The suspect is very active in organizations that protect citizens' rights and that work against family abuse, a source close to him said.

# Prime Minister's Office audit clears jubilee expenses

By JAY BUSHINSKY

After auditing the financial activities of the American Association for the Anniversary Celebrations, the Prime Minister's Office announced yesterday that "all expenditures were appropriately made."

The fiscal examination was launched after charges were leveled by Meretz MK Ran Cohen that the association's directors, Merv Adelson and Marvin Josephson, had received excessive and unwarranted payments.

This charge was rejected out of hand by a senior government official. He said Adelson and Josephson were "volunteers" and that they had laid out money for various expenses from their private resources long before reimbursement was made.

A special communique issued by the Prime Minister's Office said the two had "transferred a bill for \$306,000 to their counterparts in Israel in respect of expenditure incurred in the organizing of events in

the United States." It said the office's director-general, Moshe Leon, appointed a special committee to check the association's bills, identifying the members as Shimon Stein, legal adviser to the prime minister, Ami Talmor, financial controller of the Prime Minister's Office, and Uzi Berliski, the government internal controller.

Stein said these was additional expressions of the prime of th

Stein said there were additional expenses such as flights to Israel, hotel accommodations, and fees for attorneys and accountants that totalled \$170,000, for which no reimbursement was sought.

"We conducted a thorough examination of each expense and found well organized books, receipts, and documentation." Stein said.

"Our examination revealed that all expenses were made according to accepted norms. There were legal alliances and everything was done in an appropriate and organized manner for the purpose of organizing these events."

The committee recommended that Leon authorize reimbursement in full.

### In memoriam

Yehuda Wachsman, whose son Nahshon was killed by Hamas in 1994, lights a candle last night at a ceremony at Jerusalem's Zion Square sponsored by Women Shaping the Future, in memory of children wounded or killed in terrorist suicide bombings.

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# 5 charged in Arad Festival tragedy

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Two and a half years after the tragedy at the Arad Festival, in which three youngsters were killed and some 100 injured, the state has brought charges against five people.

They were charged yesterday in the Ashdod Magistrate's Court with a variety of crimes, from manslaughter to negligence. The tragedy took place on July

Greek Orthodox Patriarch

Diodoros I yesterday told Israeli officials that the repeated

closures of the West Bank nei-ther provided protection for the

residents of Jerusalem nor did.

they helped advance the peace

The patriarch, the country's

senior Christian cleric, was speaking at President Ezer

Weizman's annual reception for

the leaders of the Christian

communities at Beit Hanassi.

Addressing both Palestinians

and Israelis, Diodoros con-

demned the acts of terror which

took innocent lives, but he was

also critical of the usual Israeli

response to terror acts closures

which cut off the Palestinians

tection, such as the enforced clo-

sure of Jerusalem and the isola-

tion of the holy city, neither con-

tribute to security nor advance

the peace process," said the

patriarch, in an address read by

Metropolitan Timothy, secretary

of the Greek Orthodox

Weizman told the assembled

clerics that despite the fact that

the relations between Israel and

the Palestinians were "in a little

bit of a crisis," be was hopeful

The strict measures for pro-

from Jerusalem.

Patriarchate.

process.

18, 1995, during a midnight per-formance of the Machina rock group, when a large crowd tried to press its way into the outdoor stadium in the southern city to bear the group's farewell perfor-

According to the charge sheet, Yossi Bender - owner of the Hadran ticket agency, which was responsible for selling tickets for the show - sold a far larger number of tickets than permitted for the performance and a much larger number than the area could

He is also charged with wiping out of the computer the sale of 5,000 tickets to make it appear he did not oversell.

Avinoam Verbner, the directorgeneral of the Arad municipality who headed the festival preparatioos, was charged with failing to

Greek Orthodox patriarch slams closures

check that the site could hold a preparing the site for a large buge crowd and failing to examine crowd but failed to take the relethe gates leading into the outdoor facility. He also did not check that those without tickets did not try to

get in, the charge sheet says. Charged along with them was Moshe Glantz, who was responsible for coordinating between the festival committee and the contractors. He was also supposed to be personally responsible for

vant professional steps, the charge sheer says.

Two police officers, Lt.-Cmdr. Yosef Avni, the commander of the Negev District, and Ch.-Supt. Shlomo Abutbul, in charge of patrol forces in the Negev, were also indicted. They were responsible for police activities at the site

## Golan leaders urge Eitan to fight rabies

By DAVID RUDGE

Golan Heights leaders called on Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday to declare war on wild animals in the region following a dramatic rabies scare in Katzrin.

A wild animal, believed to be a jackal, ran amok through the streets of the township early yesterday morning - hiting two work-ers and several dogs. The workers, who had been

cleaning the streets, were both sent for examinations and the dogs believed to have been bitten by the animal, were put in quarantine.

Witnesses said the behavior of the animal, first reported to be a fox and later a jackal, indicated that the animal was rabid.

Police were alerted and a hunting party, including a veterinary surgeon and dog catchers, started to track the animal. A jackal was found, cornered and shot a few hours later near to Katzrin.

The carcass was sent for examination to see if the animal did have rabies and whether it was the one that had bitten the workers and the dogs earlier.

The incident follows the death of three people from rabies this year, one of them a soldier wbo was bitten by a wild animal while sleeping in his tent on the Golan Heights.

The rabies scare has also highlighted what cattle and sheep breeders on the Golan have described as a growing problem in the region - attacks by wild animals on livestock.

"I'm not scared of Syrian President Hafez Assad, nor of war, not the present government and not even that of former prime minister Shimon Peres - regarding our lives here," said Golan regional council chairman Yehuda Wolman, "But if you ask me as a father of two young children who love animals whether the rabies threat scares me, the answer is yes," he said.

Wolman yesterday sent an

urgent cable to Eitan demanding that he give orders to vaccinate pets and all wild animals that can be immunized in the region. He also demanded animals that cannot be immunized should be killed - including foxes, jackals and even wolves which are a protected

species. Agriculture Ministry spokesman Naftali Yaniv said Eitan had given the necessary instructions and a campaign to immunize or eradi-cate animals had started.

He noted, bowever, that animal rights groups favored putting vaccine in carcasses left in the open so that predators would be immunized when they are from the

The problem with jackals is that for some reason they don't go to the lures so there is no way of vaccinating them and the only alternative will be to kill them, said Yaniv.

"Another problem is that these wild animals know no boundaries and the only way the problem can really be tackled is if neighboring countries, as well as the Palestinians, also take action," he said.

Liat Collins adds:

A group of teenagers at the Kfar Hayarok agricultural boarding school have mobilized a fundraising effort to vaccinate and neuter cats who live on the school grounds.

The youths said yesterday this is the best way to deal with the rabies problem and control the size of the animal population in

the area. The vaccination campaign is an effort to avoid mass killings of the cats which have been carried out by municipal veterinarians in an

attempt to reduce the rabies risk. The youths, led by 17-year-olds Noa Nevo, Rahel Eliyahu and Elik Shemesh, said they wanted to show there is an alternative way of dealing with the problem and hope they will act as an example to other boarding schools and institu-



communities at Beit Hanassi yesterday.

Knesset stress test

Dr. Helen White, of Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem, checks Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon's pulse rate yesterday during Knesset health day. Staff from the bospital's heart institute visited the Knesset and examined 300 people, including 70 MKs and min-

### Police will have power to confiscate drivers' licenses

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Police soon will be able to immediately suspend the driver's license of anyone found commit-

ting a serious offense. The move is part of an experiment aimed at reducing road accidents. It is due to be implemented in mid-January by the traffic police, in coordination with the Transport Ministry's National Authority for Road Safety. It will be conducted for three months on the Tel Aviv-Haifa Highway and the Zichron

Ya'acov Yokne'am Highway. At present, a driver committing

a serious offense must report to a that committing a traffic offense police station a day or two after the offense is committed. Under the experimental system, officers are to be called to the scene of the offense, where they are to suspend the license for a month on the spot. The driver is then to

stand trial within the month. A driver whose license is suspended is to be given the choice of allowing an alternate driver to drive his car, accompanied by the police, to the nearest police station or allowing the police to have it towed to the nearest

police station. "We are interested in seeing

does not pay at all," said Shmuel Hershkovitz, director of the authority.

In a related development, the National Council for the Prevention of Accidents announced that in a spot cbeck which its volunteers made on headlights of some 3,000 vehicles around the country, about 20 percent of the headlights were found to have faults. The council noted that this was actually an improvement over last year, when about 30 percent of all the headlights checked were found to be faulty.

# US Jewish newspaper editor quits after anti-PM remarks

"We promise that Jerusalem

will remain united and under

Deputy Religious Affairs stressed that Jerusalem would Minister Yigal Bibi spoke of remain under Israeli control.

Israel's commitment to religious

liberty and freedom of access to

the holy places, but he also

President Ezer Weizman (second left) shares a toast with Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah (left). Armenian Patriarch Torkom

Manoogian (second right) and Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Yigal Bibi at the annual reception for leaders of the Christian

NEW YORK - Two months after his Milwaukee newspaper ran an editorial calling on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to resign, it is the editor of the Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle who is on his way out the door.

The resignation of Andrew 14-year veteran or me weekly federation-owned newspaper in Milwaukee, is linked to the controversial editorial, according to accounts at week's end in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

However, Muchin and the federation leadership declined to comment. The October 17 editorial, coming after the bungled assassination plot

in Amman, called Netanyahu's administration the "most incompetent" in Israel's history and said the prime minister should resign. A week later, the federation, which

owns the paper, published a front-

page statement saying that the editorial did not represent the opinion of the Chronicle's editorial committee or the federation's directors. The editorial icism as well as hearty applause

from its readers, who seemed as agitated about the mission of a federation newspaper as the political position its editorial took.

The Jewish Chronicle is one of dozens of English-language Jewish newspapers in the US, many of have all those people as your bosswhich are owned by the local

Jewish federations. Virtually all federation papers practice some form of self-censorship to avoid offending major donors or their

Although many have serious reporting, as a group these papers have long been dubbed the "weaklies," whose pages are often heavy on federation festivities and light

"Federations are dependent on their contributors," said Rebecca Kaplan Boroson, editor of the independent Jewish Standard in northem New Jersey. "When you work for a federation in any capacity, you es, and you are vulnerable."

## Government reform group appeals Pinhasi's sentence

By BATSHEVA TSUR

The Movement for Quality Government yesterday added a request to its appeal to the Supreme Court against the leniency of the sentence given Shas MK Rafael Pinhasi. It is now calling for the court to annul the plea bargain he made with the state.

The movement requested yesterday that the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court decision of two weeks ago under which Pinhasi received a suspended sentence - be overturned and that the attorney-general and the state attorney be ordered to appeal the lenient sentence Pinhasi received.



Rafael Pinhasi

In yesterday's request, the movement said the magistrate's court decision was highly unreasonable and did not take into account relevant material.

The addition to the petition calls on the anorney-general and the Speaker of the Knesset to prevent Pinhasi from continuing to hold the chairmanship of the Knesset House Committee.

"It is not to the public's benefit that the plea bargain was signed, since Pinhasi admitted to financial irregularities and should not be allowed to return to public activity as if nothing happened," the peti-

### Two LA synagogues attacked by arsonists

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES - A task force of federal and local officials is investigating two fires, apparent-Orthodox Synagogues in the city's Fairfax district. Authorities have not ruled out the possibility of bate crimes, although the usual antisemitic graffiti were absent.

The Sunday evening fires blackened and damaged congregations Kehillas Yaakov and Sbaarei Tefilah, on the same block of Beverly Boulevard.

A student arriving for a 9 p.m. Talmud class on Sunday discovered the fire at Kehillas Yaakov, a congregation of 100 families. Damage was estimated at \$7,000 to \$10,000. The fire at Shaarei Tefilah, which apparently burned only briefly, was discovered Monday morning. Damage to the buiding was put at several thousand dollars.

Authorities are taking the incidents seriously. Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan expressed his shock and ordered increased police patrols in the area.

"Our police and fire departments, along with the FBl and federal Alcobol, Tobacco and Firearms officers have been on the scene and will investigate these fires thoroughly," said Riordan. The officials are members of the House of Worship Task Force, set up to probe 1996 arson attacks on black churches in the South.

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### HANUKKA APPEAL

Dear brothersl

As Hanubba draws to a close, we tearfully appeal to you. Please hear the cries of a widow and children whose husband and father was suddenly takeo from them. Words canoot express the hardship of their position. Yet it is written in the holy books that salvation can be brought on Hanukka. In the words of the ARI z"I:

"From the virtues of these days, one can merit sons, life and livelihood."

Please!! Do oot allow them to drowo in their anguish! Through this mitzvah, we will merit divine hiessing and the light of the Messiah.

"...Their situation is difficult and their sorrow great, and it is therefore a great mitzvah to help the widow and her children. The Holy Ooe Blessed Be He will fulfill the desires of those who help, with hlessings of joy and gladness, happiness and health, spiritual and material success and all good things."

Harav Mordechai Eliyahu Shiita

"I add my name to this appeal and call upon our compassionate hrothers to give geoerously to this vital

Harav Chaim Druckman Shlita

Address for contributions: Family Kletzky. 16 Rehov Ovadla, POB 57467, Jerusalem

### Our backward glance

Column One

Aseat belts for Column One's opinionated zip through the year that was.

Don't expect any pre-millenmay have a slightly better track record than Tarot-

card readers or economists, that's not saving much. Personally, since I left home at age 18, I've never successfully predicted what I would be doing a year hence.

The only truly great predictors of our century have been the science fiction writers, starting with Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, and on to Isaac Asimov and

the amazing Arthur C. Clark. They are the real prophets of the millennium, but their visions are long-term and they disdain the trivial - as they should.

French astrologers are repon-ed to be in shameful retreat this end-of-year because last December their global band of chariatans failed utterly to predict the unexpected event of 1997: the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in Paris.

tOne made a feeble effort to cover herself last week by unconvincingly predicting that a "world famous celebrity" will die in 1998. Yeah, right, and the Middle East will remain problematic.) Even if the crystal balls had been all aglow with Mercedes skidding through Seine tunnels, the predictors would have still missed the most amazing aspect of the tragedy the nearest thing we have seen to a Western nervous breakdown since Victory-Europe Day after World War II.

Boo-hoo's cool

Five months later, there have been many explanations for the wave of grief, but few solid conclusions. A significant clue came last week from a British psychiatric clinic that reported a dramatic drop in admissions for psychological problems since the Diana funeral.

Common sense could agree that the Western psyche may have been badly in need of a good weep. All that cynicism. self-awareness, political correctness, information overload and dieting had to be heading someand some smart-ass comedy on television.

To quote Babylon 5, "It was the year we took back what was ours" - our human right to have a good bawl over something that moved us and to hell with what the boss, the spouse, or anyone else thinks.

It was somehow odd that the much greater Mother Teresa went quietly to her rest; even the grateful and sad Indian masses were restrained and dignified. But as her brother Earl Spencer said. Diana was "the essence of duty, style and beauty," and we sure as hell were going to miss that rare combination in a world

veryone is doing it, so let's awash with hoorishness, greed, get on with it. Fasten your and self-righteous preachers. To hell with cool: boo hoo! Uncidentally, in 1998 I want a mass uprising against "cool." Can we double the vocabulary nial predictions. Journalists of American seenagers and celebrities by teaching their

> Monkey business So Andrew Grove. the CEO of Intel. is Time magazine's man of the year? Apart from our unbridled admiration for another Holocaust survivor penniless immigrant who became a billion-

aire and changed

history, it still is a

another word?)

good choice. The Internet may have proved that a million monkeys on a million typewriters can't produce a Shakespearean canon, but 1997 continued to prove that the march of science remains awe-

High tech also has acquired a certain elegance that is attracting in droves those middle-aged people who should be complaining (as Queen Elizabeth did that the world is moving too fast and they want to get off. Women too. who used to loathe technology as a "guy" thing, have been seduced by the Pentium. Maybe now we'll get some help manuals wrinen by real humans.

Not just elegance, but heart, Many people had forgotten that NASA had prepared a little gift for July 4th this year until they woke up to the exciting countdown of the Mars Pathtinder mission landing on the Red Planet, It was all technology and robots yet somehow, alongside Mir, one of the most human of space stories. Perhaps it was the tiny little Sojourner rover bravely clunking over rocks called Barnacle Bill and Scooby Doo. It was a child-sized mission and all the cuter for it, incidentally, it was also the news item that finally secured the Internet as prime time, with millions of visits to the Mars Web site on the first day.

Dear Great...

And just in case you think the '97 world was all about progress and over-sophistication, let us take a moment of silence in honor of North Korea for where. The only relief left after a reminding us how far the human hard day's work appeared to be a race still has to go. In the midsalad, a glass of mineral water dle of this year's disastrous national famine the nation's "Dear Leader" Kim Jong II was solemnly promoted to "Great Leader. The people may be starving, but the government news agency informed a breathless world that Nature herself

responded with "jubilation."
Great natural phenomena unfolded to mark the event. These included the landing of a white sea cucumber by a fisherman and spontaneous, prolific blossoming of pear and apricot trees. Our people are hungry? Let them eat hype.

The second part of this review will appear Friday.

# India's missed opportunity

Six years after its launch, New Delhi's ambitious economic reform plan is grinding to a halt



Indian martial arts performers in Bombay last week. Is India's effort to undo its socialist economy a losing battle?

By DEXTER FILKINS

NEW DELHI, India - At a recent economic conference here, one of India's more self-confident politicians was touting the country's bright business prospects to a group of foreigners when the electricity in the room

Talking straight through the blackout, Parliament member Rajesh Pilot told the participants. "We are very hopeful,

Power failures at five-star hotels are among this country's least pressing economic problems, but the incident at the Taj Palace earlier this month underscored India's halting march to economic liberalization, which affects everything from the price of rice in the most remote village to the flow of elec-tricity in the nation's capital.

Six years after this nation of 950 million embarked on a monumental effort to dismantle its socialist economy, the process has entered an uncertain time. The economy, after several years of impressive growth, has begun to slow. Relics of the Soviet-style system survive intact.

The slowdown in the Indian economy has coincided with the tailspin of the economies of East Asia. Although economists say India's troubles are largely homegrown, they say dithering by the country's leaders could ensure that India misses an opportunity to set itself apart from the rest of Asia.

"With the crisis in Southeast Asia, Western investors will be looking to India," said Gerald Segal of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

"But one senses there is a window that is about to be missed," With the country's political leaders locked in paralyzing, petty quarrels, many business operators in India say they fear the country is stalling just as it should be finish-

ing the job of liberalization,
"It's very frustrating," said Sanjeev Nanavati, an investment banker for Standard Chartered Bank in Bombay, "Investors see a situation like this and they don't know what is going to happen

The catalyst for the malaise is the recent collapse of the Indian government. The 7-month-old government of Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral fell last month. after a minor dispute prompted the Congress-I Party, which has governed the country for most of the 50 years since independence, to withdraw its support.

The fall of Gujral's government. India's fourth in two years, cleared the way for nationwide elections early next year and shelved an array of reform measures whose passage had been awaited eagerly by foreign investors.

The Gujral government's demise came as the Indian economy, which only two years ago was growing at a 7 percent rate, began to run out of steam. Economists predict that this year the Indian economy may grow by little more than 5%, and maybe less. The benchmark index of the Bombay Stock Exchange has dropped around 20% since the spring. Moody's Investors Service recently downgraded Indian bonds to the

lowest investment grade. The crisis guaranteed India several more months of political instability, which analysts say has forced a succession of weak governments to shy away from offending the special interests

blocking further reform.
The effon to dismantle the country's centrally planned economy got under way in 1991, when an economic crisis forced the country the brink of collapse. Governments since have removed restrictions on foreign investment, cut tariffs and tossed out price

The results have been impressive. With the United States leading the way, direct foreign investment has poured into the country and this year could top Business people eager to com-\$3 billion - the most ever in a pete in the international economy country and this year could top. single year. In six years, exports have doubled. Not only has India's economy grown at a robust pace, it has avoided the traumatic adjustments suffered in some of the Eastern European countries, the newly fich now flaunt their wealth in every large Indian city.

Fifty years ago, billboards bearing the slogan "Be Indian - Buy Indian" rang with the same idealism that inspired Mohandas K. Gandhi in his fight to end British colonial rule. India's centuries-old caste system and its millions of poor seemed to confirm the need for economics that redistributed the wealth.

Those trying to push through reforms ask for patience when confronted by business people complaining that they are moving too slowly. The politicians point to the size of the Indian nation, its 500 million voters, 21 major lan-

ages, 50,000 trade unions and 0 political parties. Many Indian business people

are running out of patience. A growing number complain that it is not India's varied electorate that is hampering reform but the politicians in New Delhi them-"This corrupt, polluted city, its

resident leaders and bureaucrats, today hold the destiny of the entire nation hostage to their greed, their ignorance of everything outside the sphere of their self-interest and their lack of vision," columnist K.P.S. Gill wrote recently for the Pioneer, one of the country's largest newspapers.

say they need the government to complete the process of reform and then get out of the way. They refer derisively to the "Steel Frame," the corrupt, elephantine bureaucracy that demands bribes, our sun can i periorni.

Worse yet for frustrated business people, there is no guarantee that the economic reforms will continue even after next year's elections, scheduled for February and March. The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, which many here predict to win the nationwide elections, promises to allow foreign investors to help develop roads, power plants and

high-tech projects.
But the BIP may keep out foreign companies that want to sell consumer goods such as toothpaste, junk food and stereos. The BIP slogan: "Microchips, not potato chips." The most likely outcome of the upcoming elections, analysts say, is a coalition government with no majority in Parliament. Such a government probably would not enact the unpopular measures needed to kick-start India's economic reform: firing public employees, deregulating the financial sector and eliminating the subsidies that consume nearly 15% of India's

gross domestic product.

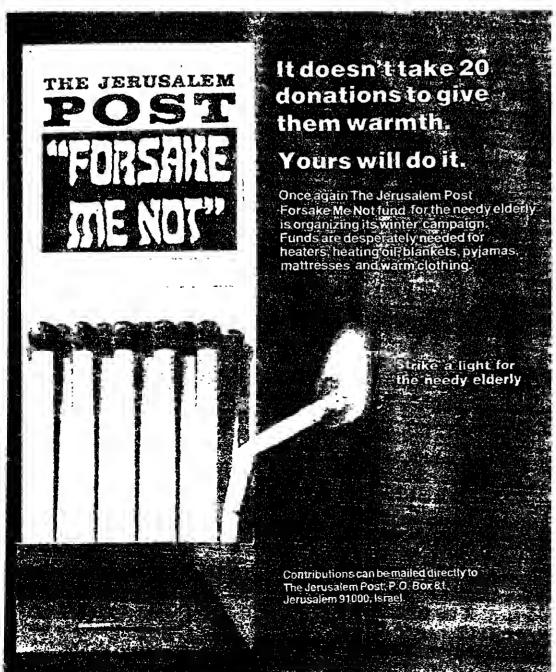
Recently, both the national and state governments seemed incapable of decisive action. When public employees went on strike, Gujral gave 5 million of them a raise and raised taxes to pay for it. When the government in Haryana state tried to reduce the subsidy for electricity, angry farmers blocked the roads and burned railway stations, and the state government reversed ground.

"I don't expect to see any major push for reform out of the next government," said Saugata Bnanacharya. Investment Research Information Service in New Delhi.

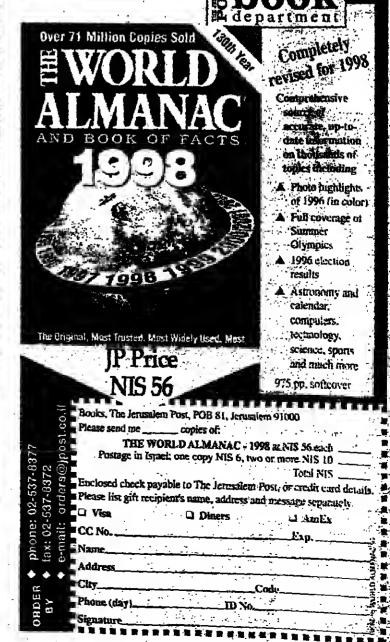
Despite the uncertainty, some analysts remain optimistic about India's future. Even with the slowdown, most economists are predicting moderate growth over the next year. Compared to the rest of Asia, where many economies are contracting, that's likely to attract attention.

Stephen R. du Mont, a businessconsultant based in Utah, says he gave up on India a decade ago-Today, he's back, and he says: approvals he once waited years for. now take weeks.

This country has come a long way," du Mont said. (LA Times) ...







# Annan expected to OK Iraq deal this week

UNITED NATIONS (Remers) -UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan is expected to approve Iraq's oil-for-food plan by the end of the week, a UN spokesman said on Monday.

UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said Iraq on Saturday submitted the remainder of the plan or annexes to Denis Halliday, the UN repre-sentative in Baghdad, and the papers were being forwarded to New York. He said he expected Aman to get the final copy, with a recommendation from UN officials, by late today.

We would hope that the package could be approved by the end

Baghdad cuts food rations ahead of oil-for-food pact of the week," he said. Iraq suspended oil exports December 5 to protest delays in receiving food, medicine and other bumanitarian supplies for its peo-ple suffering under more than

seven years of sancoons. It has said it would begin oil supplies again once Annan approves the plan for the next six months.

Under the program, Iraq can sell \$2 billion of oil every six months to buy goods for its people. The plan began a year ago and was renewed by the Security Council in

December at the same rate. But the council will consider whether to raise the amount of oil that can be it has done little to ease the plight of children under five, who are underfed and underweight and that sold after Annan submits another report on the program by the end of January.

Halliday and other UN officials monitoring the scheme in Baghdad say the money is too little and have suggested it be doubled.

UN officials as well as most UN Security Council members say the program bas malfunctioned since its inception a year ago and has too many delays. UN aid agencies say

the amount of oil sold for food should be increased.

Earlier this week Iraq announced it was reducing rations of baby milk, cooking oil and other essentials, saying it had not received sufficient supplies under its oil deal with the United Nations and blaming Washington for the short-

The US on Monday blasted Iraq for cutting food rations to its people and accused Baghdad of hold-ing up UN approval of \$120 million in food contracts.

State Department spokesman James Foley called the culbacks "really appalling and indeed tragic." He accused Baghdad of "claiming on the one hand to be concerned about the humanitarian plight of their own people, and yet, on the other hand to consistently thwart the efforts of the international community to meet those humanitarian needs." As an example, he said the United States signaled its "eagerness to consider and recommend for approval contracts for food worth nearly \$120 million" that are now with the UN Sancoons Committee

secretariat. But Foley said "Iraq has taken really the outrageous step of requesting that these contracts not be distributed to the Sanctions Committee for consideration." He said he did not know why Baghdad

had acted this way.
"It is appalling that Iraq would delay consideration of contracts

for humanitarian goods that are in critically short supply while at the same time alleging that the United States is not sensitive to the suffering of the Iraqi people," Foley said.

The spokesman insisted the United States is "doing everything possible to alleviate suffering in Iraq while Saddam Hussein continues to increase and then use this

suffering for political purposes." Foodstuffs are in short supply in Iraq since UN trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad for invading Kuwait in 1990 blocked oil exports, its main source of foreign



Prisoners occupy a tower at the Sorocaba Prison, 80 kilometers from Sao Paulo, where some 15 inmates are holding more than

# Brazil inmates hold 600 hostages

SAO PAULO, Brazil (Renters) - A group of heavily armed prison inmates demanding more weapons and an armored car held more than 600 people hostage oo Mooday, Brazilian prison authorities said.

About 15 inmates who took control of the prison on Sunday released two women, wives of the inmates, who complained of feeling ill, officials said. Television news said op to 20 hostages

were released, but the reports could not be confirmed. Authorities initially reported the inmates had taken 450 people hostage.

Hostages at Sorocaba deteotion center, 80 kilometers from Sao Paulo, include about 300 of inmates - officials said. Another 20 hostages are prison staff. Officials outside the prisoo said there were

oo talks to secure the release of hostage children because negotiations in general had reached a stalemate. They did not indicate what their next step would be. "I am afraid to leave for fear the police may

storm in," one of the hostages, a wife of an inmate, told O Globo television. The atmosphere in the prison did oot appear particularly tense, with television showing

children and adults playing soccer inside the prison walls.

The inmates, who failed to escape from the women and 200 children - visiting relatives prison on Sunday dressed in wigs and women's members hostage.

clothing, were now demanding an armored car to flee from the overcrowded prison. Television reports said the police were not

ready to give them a vehicle. Officials said they worried the food supply may run out at the prison, which was built to

hold 650 inmates but houses about 850. Sunday's riot began when a group of inmates tried to sneak out of the prison during a family visit. The plan failed and coded in a shootout that left one prisoner and a vis-

iting relaove dead. During the riot, prisoners overpowered about 20 guards and took their weapons. The inmates then took some 600 visiting family

### US urges congressman not to visit Teheran

### By CAROL GIACOMO

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The State Department on Monday said a US congressman was considering a trip to Iran but urged against the visit, saying any dialogue between the two hostile states should involve authorized government officials and be publicly

acknowledged. Deputy spokesman James Foley said Rep. Tom Lanios, a California Democrat and senior member of the House International Relations Committee, was in touch with the State Department and White House to discuss a possible trip to

"He has expressed an interest in visiting Iran but let me emphasize, should he actually be traveling to Iran, it would not be at the request of the White House or the State Department, Foley told

reporters.

It is not something that we encourage...It's something that we would discourage," he insisted.
Foley stressed that Washington

"official dialogue...between our two governments [that is an] authorized dialogue and one that would be acknowledged publiely with the Iranian authorities. We bave not yet seen definitive indication on the part of the Iranians that they're prepared for such a dia-

US officials said they believed Lantos wanted to make the trip but would be under increased pressure oot to go forward because of the State Department's public admoni-

They said key US policymakers are loathe to repeat what they consider a disastrous overture to Teberan a decade ago when the White House secretly sold arms to Iran and diverted the proceeds to

the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

It is unclear who might invite Lantos to Iran and there is concern his trip could become embroiled in Iranian politics, the officials said. Foley said the State Department

had "informal contacts" with Lantos about a possible trip and would discuss Iran issues further with him, as it would with any congressman.

A Lantos spokesman in Washington said the congressman was in his California district Monday but he had nothing on Lantos's travel planes. US officials said they understood Lantos had not yet received an Iranian visa.
Earlier, a White House spokesman, Erie Rubin, said

President Bill Clinton bas no plans to send a special envoy to Teheran. He said a reported visit by Lantos was "news to us."

The official news agency of the United Arab Emirates quoted informed sources as saying Clinton sent Lantos to look into possible changes in Iranian foreign

Although unusual, it is not out of the question for Americans with official or semi-official stature to undertake foreign trips without the formal okay of the White House in pursuit of sensitive and risky diplomatic missions.

The talk of a Lantos trip comes at a time of tantalizing signs of a possible thaw in relations between

Washington and Teheran after nearly two decades of bitter hostil-

Rubin said the United States was looking for "deeds not words" to confirm any change in Iranian foreign policy since the surprise election in May of Mohammad Khatami, a relatively moderate elerie considered a reformer.

Khatami stirred speculation earlier this month about a possible US-Iran thaw when he proclaimed his respect for the "great people of the United States."

At a news conference, he voiced interest in restoring a dialogue poisoned since Islamie radicals beld 52 American hostages at the Teheran embassy for 444 days in

Later, Clinton told a news conference: "Do I hope there will be some conditions under which this dialogue can resume? I certainly do." He said the government was assessing "bow to proceed" with Iran. Foley said Washington was keen to learn if Khatami would expand on his news conference comments in the new year.

The US position has been that it would consider a public and "authoritative" dialogue with Iran as long as three issues were discussed: Iran's support for violent Islamist groups, its opposition to the US-sponsored Middle East peace process and its alleged development of weapons of mass destruccion.

Washington's rhetoric has softened since Khatami's election to a job in which he remains subordinate to Iran's supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

# UK reporter claims minister's son sold her drugs

LONDON (Reuters) - Police arrested a journalist on Monday who says she bought cannabis from the son of a British cabinet minister, prompting an angry protest from her editor.

3

The Mirror newspaper said its reporter Dawn Alford was arrested on suspicion of possessing cannabis when she went voluntarily to a London police station with another Mirror staffer and a lawyer. She was released on bail.

This is an outrageous decision which is, in my opinion, specifically designed to deflect attention from the criminal activities of a cabinet minister's son to the entirely justifiable methods deployed by a newspaper to

Piers Morgan said in a statement. The Mirror reported last Wednesday that Alford bad bought

a small quantity of cannabis from the minister's 17-year-old son et a London pub following a tip-off.
Before publishing the story, the newspaper told the minister, who confronted the son and went with

him to a police station where he was arrested and released on bail last Monday. The soo is too young to be named in print as facing a possible

criminal charge, a law which also prevents the media from naming

The story caused acute embar-

takes a hard line on drugs and has attacked as irresponsible a eampaign by The Independent on Sunday newspaper to have

cannabis legalized. A spokesman for Blair, bowever, emphatically ruled out the minister's having to resign over the ineident.

Alford said she went to the pub after a tip-off and paid 10 pounds (\$17) for a small packet of

cannabis resin. Morgan, describing the situation

as farcical, said the decision to

uncover them," Mirror editor Blair's Labour government, which arrest the reporter "has clearly been taken because of the sensitive position held by the cabinet minister and is an affront to investigative journalism."

Prosecutors must now decide if the minister's son will face charges. Briosh law lays down a maximum sentence of 14 years in jail for supplying only cannabis, but offenders are normally fined if the quanoty is small.

People arrested for possessing small quantiões of the drug are often cautioned rather than

# Building collapses in Times Square; no injuries

NEW YORK (AP) - The upper floors of a six-story building in Times Square collapsed early yesterday, raining large pieces of concrete on an area that is jammed with people during the daytime.

No one was injured in the collapse, which happened at about 5:20 a.m. The building, the Selwyn Office ·Tower, was largely vacant and slated for demolioon. Slabs of brown concrete, some 3 to 4.5 meters long,

landed on the sidewalk and street. "If this was midnight on January 1, there would have been a lot of people who would have gotten hurt," said Eugene McMahon, a spokesman for the city's Department of Environmental Protection.

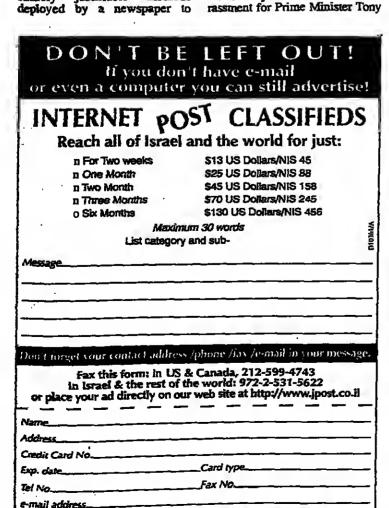
The New 42nd Street, a group working to rejuvenate the once-sleazy area, holds a lease on the 71year-old building, which is adjacent to the construction site for a planned 18,600-square-meter retail and

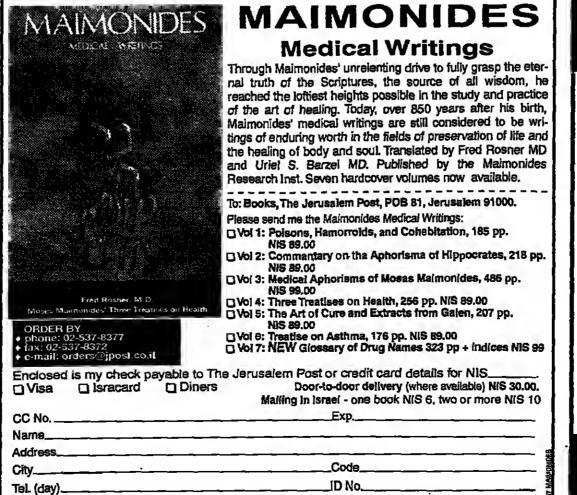
entertainment complex. The building was storing supplies for this week's

New Year's Eve celebration, including 30,000 balloons and 20,000 leis, and artifacts from the "old" Times Square such as pinball machines and neoo signs advertising sex shops.

Next door, they had dug a huge bole for construetion and between the construction and all the heavy rain, this must have happened," said Cora Cahan, The New 42nd Street group's president, referring to a storm that swept over the city Monday and early yes-

The eollapse, which forced the closing of busy 42nd Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues, is the second construction mishap to disrupt midtown traffic this month. A crumbling facade on a 27-yearold building under repair on Madison Avenue and 55th Street rained bricks on the street below on December 7. Two pedestrians suffered minor injuries and businesses were forced to close during the busy holiday season.





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### South of the border

A North Korean defector holds her haby while hugging a family meother in Seoul yesterday. The South Korean National Security Planning Agency showed off to the press nine North Koreans who defected to the South in

# Shouldn't you be in bed now?

### By Mary Williams Walsh

RADOM, Poland - Uotil this year, the worst case of lawless: in memory in this city of 230,000 occurred about 20 years ago, when factory workers noted after a rise in meat prices. Police were encouraged to smash heads and, hy sun-up the next morning, four laborers lay dead in the streets and 2,000 had been jailed.

Aside from that hrutal episode, Radom has long been a quiet, unexceptional, mid-size Polish city, known not for seething slums or a soaring crime rate hut for its humming tanneries and Kalashnikov assault-rifle factory. Certainly, it would have occurred to very few here that the local teenagers constituted a menace to the common weal.

Lately, though, Radom has attracted the attention of European human rights groups and become a topic of national debate. Does the city represent an enlightened example in the hattle to save Poland's wayward young? Or is its crime-fighting method of choice - a curfew - a vestige of the police state, a sign that post-Communist officials here remain all too willing to uncuff the police, even when no one has committed a crime?

"I've worked here for 20 years, and I can remember only one case where one teenager killed another," says Hieronim Glaz, the supervisor of the local juveoile lockup, where police can stash troublesome minors for 48 hours. "At that time, we thought A mid-size town's attempt to confront juvenile delinquency by imposing a curfew on teenagers stirs controversy in and beyond Poland

it was totally out of this world." Last New Year's Eve, however, the people of Radom were shocked when one high school studeot beat another to death in a barroom brawl. And then, in March, the unthinkable happened again: Two teenagers strangled a 14-year-old boy with an electric cord because they coveted his stylish Adidas gym shoes and

Finally, in April, when a 16-yearold fatally hludgeoned his middleaged neighbor after the neighbor accused him of vandalizing a doorbell, Radom swung into action.

Now the city police are sup-posed to demand identification from any young person they find on the streets between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Those under 18 may be taken to Glaz's makeshift jail and booked. The cops then pass the information to the town youth advocate, who rings up the kids' parents and invites them to his office for tea and consultations.

Just so much wrist-slapping, one might think, given the rough stuff the youth of Radom seem to go in for these days. And with cities across America experimenting with curfews of their own, one wouldn't think a nighttime clampdown in Radom would be the stuff that human rights advocates' nightmares are made of.

But this is Poland, a former Eastern Bloc country where civil liberties arrived only after 40 assembly-line of Communist repression. Until receotly, having your name entered io a police ledger here could mean you'd be hlacklisted, or even beaten up in a secret cell.

For Andrzej Rzeplinski, a founding member of the Helsinki Foundation - a respected research group that monitors the progress of human rights in Poland - the question of whether a curfew is justified is a no-brainer.

"It's a totalitarian way of thinking," he says.
But seated at a desk in his

cramped, coal-heated office on a snowy morning in Radom, Włodzimierz Wolski does oot look like much of a totalitarian thought policeman from the bad old days. A gym teacher io Communist times, Wolski is now Radom's youth advocate, charged in the new democratic order with safeguarding the rights of minors in

It was Wolski who came up with the curfew idea - and he did so, he says, because after the unprecedented series of killings, frightened young people and their parents lined up to beg for help. They wanted to feel safe again.

Wolski simply couldn't believe it when some Polish newspapers covered his save-the-children program with headlines such as "Martial law in Radom," along with scary photos of burly cops in dark iackers

"In Poland, words like 'martial law' and 'curfew' cause fury in people," he says. "People don't associate them with anything good. Now the kids in Radom think somebody is trying to hurt them." And hurting people, says Wolski, is the last thing be wants

When the parents of late-night wanderers come to his office, he says, he watches closely for signs of drinking, spousal abuse or other domestic unpleasantness that might be driving the children into

The purpose, he says, is to get alcoholic parents into treatment, to reach out to battered wives, even to offer cash assistance and belp people find jobs.

Unul the civil libertarians jumped in, Wolski had become something of a minor national hero, basking in the attention of mayors and youth agencies from one side of Poland to the other. Dozens of officials had contacted his office, he says, to ask how they too could impose curfews and clear their streets of the unruly young. In Warsaw, specialists began studying ways to implement a national version. Polls showed that more than 90 percent of respondents liked the idea.

Wolski, meanwhile, could proudly rattle off police statistics suggesting that his city has, in fact, sharply reduced youth crime. "Uotil oow, the police stopped teenagers only if they had done something really bad, like drinking alcohol or hreaking into a car," he says. Now every underage person on the street at night is seen

as a threat and is asked what they

are doing." lt's precisely this line of thinking - every teenager a threat - that has set alarm bells ringing at the Helsinki Foundatioo, whose intellectuals and scholars worked hravely from the underground during the Polish martial-law years to document and publicize all manner of abuse that took place in the came of law enforce-

"The Polish law does not allow detentions of people by group, says the foundation's Rzeplinski. "You cannot detain all teenagers, any more than you can detain all Jews, all bald people or all cyclists." Although the Helsinki Foundation says it hasn't received any formal complaints from young people in Radom, it has offered to file suit at the European Court of Justice on behalf of any Radom minor who wants to challenge his or her detention. It also has urged Wolski to come in and discuss ways to make his curfew compatible with human rights, but Wolski refuses to make such an

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أحكذا من الاصل

# Must-miss movies of 1997

ow could anybody possibly trim the worst movies of the year for true councisseers of cinematic trash, a really vintage year - to only 10 measly

Only by tossing out the mept, underbudgeted and ill-conceived and focusing on the people who seem to do it on purpose. In keeping with the inflated selfimportance of so many voting entities, we'd like to bestow a special Lifetime Achievement Award on Chevy Chase, without whom bad movies would have no guiding intelligence (or lack thereof)

1. G.J. Jane - As Richard Nixon once said, you can only be insulted by someone you respect, so it's tough to be too worked up over this Demi-debacle.

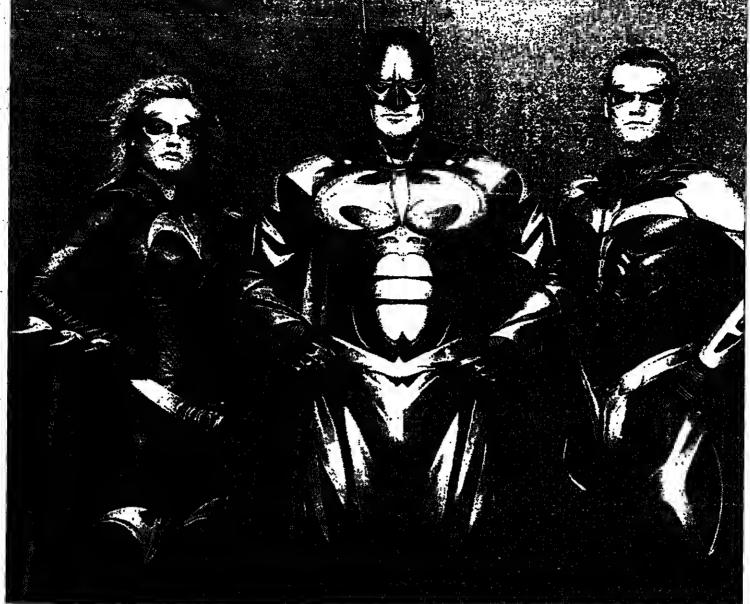
2. Con Air - No one in this starsudded blow-em-up seemed to be taking it seriously, which was smart Memo to Nick-Cage: No more angry hunks without a solid underlying neurosis.

3. Excess Baggage—No offense to the unenfranchised but sometimes, when you give a teenager like Alicia Silverstone "artistic control," this is the kind of thing that can happen. 4. Barman and Robin - A mess.

5. Money Talks - Relentless. 6. The Saint - No one knew what was going on, or cared.
7. The Pest - John Legnizamo without a leach

8. Meet Wally Sparks - Rodney Dangerfield without a golf bag. 9. The Fifth Element Overdresssed, underwritten opportunity for Bruce Willis to smirk for two hours.

10. The Lost World: Jurassic Park - Spielbergasaurus Wrecks: Did you see it? Did you think about it for more than five minutes? It felt longer than the Jurassic Era itself.



(The Washington Post) Alicia Silverstone (above as Batgirl, with Batman [George Clooney] and Robin [Chris O'Donnell]) starred in two of the 10 worst films.

# Hanukka, Hollywood style

n the sixth oight of the Festival of Lights, Roseanne (a.k.a. Roseanne Barr) pui on a Hanukka play - and the tale of the hrave Maccabees and the miraculous cruse of oil may never be the same again.

In the one-time matinee and evening performances, the director, narrator and author, listed as Roseanne Thomas on the program, mixed show-biz shtick with the traditional themes to hugely entertain parents and a raft of noisy kids in the small auditorium of the Kabbalah

Learning Center in Hollywood.

Sitting in the second row on a hard folding chair and taking it alt io was modestly dressed Madonna and her year-old daughter Lourdes, with not a single paparazzo within miles.

The large cast represented almost the entire four-to-seveoyear old studeot body of the Kabbalah Day School.

Referriog in her young cast, Roseanne proudly noted that "this is the first time in history that childreo are being taught Kabbala," while the program boasted that the day school "is the only school in the history of Judaism that offers a full curriculum of Torah studies combined with an emphasis on kabbalistic teachings, along with an extensive secular program."

The rotund television star admitted that the Hanukka play made for "the most nerve-racking day of my career. It's one thing to make the network mad, but to make God mad..." Amidst more traditional scenes, the director-narrator spiced up the play with some innovarions of her own.

• In forcing a pious Jew to worship idols, a Hellenizer holds up an Oscar statuette, while the victim

inquires if his apostasy will at least get him into Disneyland. Interjects Roseanne, "Today many Jews still worship this idol." The climactic battle between the Maccabees and the Seleucids is shown via video on a wide TV screen, with Antiochus's forces aided hy hordes of Scottish Highlanders, led hy Mel Gibson, courtesy of the film Braveheart. Roseanne appears in the video as a reporter for TV station KNN, describing the progress of the bat-tle. As Mattathias dies, she urges

the audience to stay tuned. • In a swinging scene, depicting the desecration of the Temple, a five-year-old cocktail waitress fills an order for "one Manischewitz straight up," while a line of similarly aged disco dancers strut their stuff.

Despite this comedic approach to Hanukka, Roseanne takes her involvement with the Kabbalah Learning Center seriously. She spent over two months researching and rehearsing the play, and she has attended classes at the center for more than three years.

On her way out of the hall, she told an inquirer that "everything I believe in has come from Kabbala," whose study has raised her to "a higher consciousness."

The center has been sharply criticized hy mainstream rabhis for teaching a superficial pop version of Kabbala, while a number of disenchanted former members have complained of bigh-pressure tactics to give more money.

None of this has lessened the center's appeal to Hollywood figures in search of spiritual solace and understanding. Besides Madonna and Roseanne, reported disciples include Barbra Streisand, Elizabeth Taylor, Courtney Love, Jeff Goldblum and Laura Dern.

# Prime minister's award for 'provocative' composer

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

ome might deem Tzippi Descher too officer to be ried Fine Prime ... which she will receive in a ceremony tomorrow evening, together with two other composers, Menahem Wiesenberg and Oded Assaf. But those who decided to award to prize to Fleischer (jury members this year were Mira Zakai, Itai Talgam and Ymam Leef) have done a great service to music in general, and Israeli music in particular, by choosing Fleischer.

One of the more intriguing, nonconventional, and provoca-tive composers of our age, Fleischer is more avant garde than others yet at the same time writes simple melodies which can reach directly to your heart.

When she was 25, Fleischer, a graduate of the Oriental Studies division at the Reali School in Haifa, obtained university degrees in both Arabic and composition. The only way to combine her interests in Arabic and musicology was to set Arab poetry to music. Which was exactly what she did. And several years ago Fleischer's major works in this mode were recorded by the Koch Schwann label in a disc that opens with the composer's own invocation, in fluent and dramatic Arabic, of her



Eskimos, Beduin, and Gypsies influenced Tzippi Fleischer.

love of the language.

Fleischer moves from one geme to another, always keeping her very personal musical style, in which vocals, whether narration or singing in a variety of languages, closely accompany the musical line.

Fleischer created a series of multimedia works titled "The Ethnic World," involving "sophisticated studio-processed magnetic tapes of fascinating sounds scopes which I came upon in recent years in various locations of the globe, such as among the Eskimos,

Beduin, and Gypsies." Other creations are "avant-garde

multimedia works for performance on the stage which contain phonetic simulations of ancient dead languages from the Semitic East." Some of these works have been performed on stage, others were recorded on video, and then last summer Fleischer presented her first real opera, Medea, a culmination of her ongoing search for the perfect combination of music and drama.

Fleischer is an acrive composer and educator. She teaches music in several colleges and is very proud of that. "I believe education is a very important part of our life," she says, adding that in recent years she seems to be traveling extensively all over the world. 'I really do not know bow it all started. In 1986 l had my first LP out and suddenly l began traveling with my music. Now my works are performed regularly all over the world."

Israelis do not have many opportunities to hear Fleischer's music. Her discs are not easily found in your neighborhood record store, and since performances of her works involve many musicians and unconventional instrumeots, live concerts are difficult to organize.

The music of Tzippi Fleischer is imbued with a very Israeli sensihility, a special cumbination of musical and dramatic elements by a composer who never ceases searching for new and uncommon

# A prize for a puppet master

By HELEN KAYE

ario Kotliar presides over an empire. He's the director-general of the Interdisciplinary Theater Association of Jerusalem (TTAJ). It comprises the Train Puppet Theater (est. 1981), the School of Visual Theater (1986), the Habassa Theater (1989), the Phenomena Festival (1996) and now Code, a new interdisciplinary arts magazine.

All had their genesis from him, and tomorrow night Jerusalem mayor Ebud Olmert will present him with the municipality's Life Achievement Award for Culture.

Kodiar's very unimperial office is on the fourth floor of a concrete pile in the Talpiot industrial area of Jerusalem which houses both the school and the theater. There's just room for a desk, a couple of chairs and two sad-looking hookcases half filled with files.

Kotliar is a tall, soft-spoken, gentle-tempered, utterly unpretentious man whose relaxed manner belies the energy that drives him through his usual 12-bour day. He speaks in the first-person plural, not a royal "we," but in deference to the long-time colleagues and associates who work with him.

He also speaks of himself as a facilitator rather than an organizer. saying "I regard everything I do, even my work in management, as part of my art," A pause. "That's why I have a comptroller to take

care of the money end!"

It all started in a Buenos Aires attic filled with the kind of junk that beckons children to olay Let's Pretend. Kotliar spent hours there. He was born in 1949, the only boy among four sisters. His father

was a radio host who died when Kotliar was 11. His mother took care of the family "and I inherited a love of books from her. Her father was a miser and wouldn't allow the children to read in bed, so Mother read books by candlelight. She still loves to read."

A committed and active Zionist,

young Kotliar first arrived in Israel for a summer youth counselor's course in the middle of the Six Day War. Then he went back to Buenos Aires. Three years and a degree in theater later, he immigrated to Kibbutz Alumot, but his stay there was brief. Kibbutz life, Kotliar decided, was not for him. "But I think that everything we've done in the association contains something of what should have happened in the kibbutz, but didn't. I mean the conception that respects individuality as part of giving to the whole, of giving people their space."

He came to Jerusalem, where he still lives with his wife and two children, and there met up with the people who are still part of ITAJ, like Hadass Ophrat, co-fouoder with him of the School of Visual Theater, or Alina Ashpel who runs

"We all had theater groups," he

recalls, "and what united us was that none of us wanted to do conventional theater. Everything we have done was born from the group. This was the '70s, and our heroes were [avant-garde theater director] Robert Wilson, the [social activist] Bread and Puppet Theater, and [director] Richard

Puppet theater was the first choice because Ophrat had experience in the genre and "because a puppet is a metaphor on two levels the buman and the symbolic. The puppet is also an object, raw material that can be manipulated.

"From there, the road to the school [of visual theater] was very short. Content is more than just words. The visual world bas significance that extends borizons, so everything becomes possible. Besides, we felt that Jerusalem needed and wanted the school."

With the establishment of the school in 1986, "Habama became inevitable so that theory could become practice." Its productions made waves locally and at festivals abroad, like Ophrat's Behind the Fence or Kotliar's own Babylonian Tales. More recently it bas sheltered its graduates' work, like that of video and theater artist Anat Ben-David.

Kotliar's local directing career started in 1973 with Michel de Gelderode's Escurial and continued unabated over the years until Don't Kill Don Quixote last year,

<u>一</u>

the year be got the Golden Mermaid at the Chervia Festival, Italy, for his contribution to the furtherance of visual theater. Until 1990, he taught play analysis and theater theory at the school.

Festivals are part and parcel of Kodiar's inclusive artistic vision of total theater. He started with the International Puppet Festival in 1982, the year after he established the Train, not only to raise local consciousness and standards towards puppetry but to open local audiences to the idea that puppet theater is for adults as well as for kids. Last year puppets were incorporated into Phenomena, a well-received festival that ran the gamut from puppets to performance art.

He calls total theater that "in which everything is connected, that leads the spectator into a world of total illusion. I doo't like contemporary quotes, or polemics. That's wby 1 look for universal material that has a poetic core and which can absorb experimentation with form."

Kotliar's artistic start-ups have always taken hold, and if they haven't exactly become household names, they are still there because I have the talent to see the opportunity and seize the moment, I suppose," he muses. And because "I still feel like a foreigner here. I'm not part of the theater establishment, so everything I create is a statement of

### A fabulous foursome

arly music is a way of think-ing about art more than any-thing else. Some might call a performance of Wagner or Schumann by specialized so-called "authentic" ensembles early music, while others will even deem Bach late music. Early music has to do with how a certain piece of music is performed and with what instruments it is per-

When singing is involved, we enter into a totally different realm because there is no way of knowing how the singers of the first part of this millennium actually sounded. But ample information exists to give a sense of the style, which is what many ensembles try to convey.

Since the emergence of Early Missic as a style more than three decades ago, many ensembles have formed and have begun to perform and record around the world. The wealth is immense, the riches of the repertoire are unfathomable, but not many ensembles have managed to make their mark

One exception is Anonymous 4, a female foursome that has per-formed to great international acclaim since its inauguration in

They already have six discs to their credit, each of which is a searching for new adjectives to praise the musicianship and sheer

### CLASSIC DISCS By Michael Agenstact

seventh, Hildegard von Bingen's 1,000 Virgins. Chants for the Feast of St. Ursula, Anonymous 4 (Harmonia Mundi 907200), which is magical.

The combination of Anonymous 4 and Von Bingen is an excellent one. On the one hand are four female musicians of this day and age who are devoted to the music of 1,000 years ago. On the other hand is probably the first serious female composer of the Western world whose music is pure and refined. The meeting ground has to do with a third woman, St. Ursula, and the legend of her mar-tyrdom with her 1,000 or more virgin companions during her trip

from Rome back to her homeland. The story itself is first-rate material for dramatic presentation, but Von Bingen does not tell us the story of the saint. Rather, she created 18 relatively short (ranging from less than a minute to nine minutes long) segmeous which were intended as prayers during the Feast of St. Ursula.

Critics, musicologists, musicians and music lovers have been

musical joy and vivacity of Anonymous 4 and justifiably so. The special hlend of these four women is amazing. When they sing, they virtually transport you to hygone times. Their music floats in the air in all its beauty and elan and makes you feel as if you were part of a mystical experience that is centuries old. They don't sound like a modern ensemhle imitating long-forgotten traditioos. In fact, they sound so pure, one imagines the music-making of the 11th and 12th centuries.

Von Bingen has been a favorite composer of many early music or, should one say, medieval music ensembles. Her music is powerful and dramatic while at the same time soothing, caressing and evocative in its refined, teoder beauty.

The combination of Anonymous the fahulous Ruth Cunningham, Marsha Genensky, Susan Hellauer and Johanna Maria Rose - with the music of Hildegard von Bingen results in one of the most sensitive, polished and warm-hearted discs of the year. It is a unique opportunity to savor the music of a millennium ago with 20th-century sense and sensibility in a mode that is very remote from this day and age.

And speaking of days and ages, isn't it time to invite this fabulous foursome to perform in Israel?

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### Religious bridges to peace

olice last week arrested right-wing extremist Avigdor Eskin - infamous for numerous publicity stuots such as placing a curse on Yitzhak Rahin before his assassinanon - for participating in an alleged plot to desecrate the Temple Mount with a pig's head. According to his lawyer, Eskin denied his involvement, claiming that he, too, thought that such a provocation would be a "stupid" idea.

Appropriately, Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron seot a letter Sunday to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat strongly condemning the alleged plot. The Bakshi-Doron letter continues a welcome and promising trend, that of Israeli religious leaders reaching out to both their counterparts and to political leaders in the Arab world. Other examples include an exchange of letters between Bakshi-Doron and Sheikh Tantawi of al-Azhar University in Cairo, and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Israel Lau's recent visit to Egypt as a guest of President Hosni Mubarak.

The mission of the rabhis is as straightforward as it is urgeon to enlist Moslem clerics in condemning the taking of innoceot life in the strongest terms. After meeting with Rabhi Lau, Sheikh Tantawi did make such a statement, saying that all people of status within Islam condemn terrorism, and that "Islamic sharia [law] opposes any harm to innoceots." Aside from such a positive statement, there may be a long way to ridding the regioo of the scourge of terrorism, whether it be suicide bombings within Israel or the recent massacre of tourists in Egypt. Even the most authoritative defense of the true values of Islam or Judaism cannot prevent extremists on either side from distorting religion for their political purposes, as did the assassin of Yitzbak Rabin.

Still, it is critical that such statements be made and repeated as loudly, widely, and at as many levels as possible - not just for the sake of peace and security, but to defend religion itself. Religious leaders are normally thought of as standing in the breach against the depredations of secularism, but fanatics who kill innocents in the name of God are at least as great a threat to religion's bid for popular allegiance in a modern world. In fact, it is the commonalities between Islamic and Jewish leaders that hold the potential for producing a productive dialogue. Both

are threatened by secularism and by fanaticism. And both may be uniquely positioned to moderate the other.

In Israel, the religious-nationalist opposition to the peace process is not just fueled by doctrinal allegiance to the land, but by the same security coocerns that are shared by all Israelis. Most Israelis believe that Islam does not recognize any foreign sovereignty, and that "peace" is synonymous with the extension of Islamic law. But within Islam, there is also the concept of "hudna," which provides for coexistence with foreign powers which cannot be conquered. In other words. Islam, like Judaism, has ways of accommodating to realities that are less than ideal from its perspective. Understandably, many Israelis might regard a status of conditional tolerance as less than acceptable. Regardless of theology, however, any peace with the Arab world will have to be built upoo a foundation of military deterrence.

On the other hand, the dialogue with religious leaders could also have a moderating impact by dispelling myths about Judaism and Israel. Though practically all Israelis are horrified and disgusted by the idea of desecrating a mosque as deliberate provocatioo, we cannot assume that the Moslem world understands this. At the Islamic conference in Teheran, Arafat himself was not above making the ridiculous charge that Israel was plotting to dismantle the Islamic boly places on the Temple Mount, Such religious incitement must be condemned and combated by both political and religious leaders.

In addition to dispelling misuoderstandings of Judaism, rabbis can fied common ground with their Moslem counterparts over the challenges of secularism. Though part of the Islamic religious opposition to the peace process is theological, part is an ideotification of peace with the spread of Western secular culture. In a situation in which Islamic religious movements fear being left out of deals between secular governments, Jewish religious leaders could be the most effective emissaries io convincing them that their role will be enhanced later if they are part of the process now. The government should encourage the trend towards inter-religious diplomacy by signalling that it will treat with seriousness any agreement that results.



# Leumi breaks the banks

The most absurd, surreal and generally superfluous issue that the Israeli banking system has been wrestling with over the last few years concerns the

OPINION

move to a five-day workweek. Most of the business sector in Israel has, over the last decade or more, adopted a five-day workweek, whereby Friday is no longer a working day. This includes service sectors as well, but not the retail sector, for which Friday is an important business day on which many customers concentrate their

The question for the banking sector therefore, was whether it could move over to a five-day week, like other businesses, or whether bank branches should stay open, in line with other retail outlets. In practice, most banks have long since moved their head-office activities to a fiveday week basis, so the issue centred on the branch network.

Nevertheless, a subsidiary question arose: if the banks adopt a fiveday week, which should be the "off" day? Should it be Friday, because it's a half day and has become part of the weekend, or perhaps Sunday, because that's not a husiness day abroad and much of the business sector's banking activity is conducted in foreign currency, and therefore does not require the banks to be open on Sundays.

An alternative solution was mooted, whereby different departmeots of the banks would close on different days - some on Sunday and some on Friday.

The most amazing thing about this pseudo-issue is that it has rumhled on for five years, with the banks unable to agree among themseives on a timetable. The absurdity heightened when the Restrictive Business Practices Authority ordered the banks not to agree among themselves - this would be

great miracle occurred

bere. And also on Hanukka

Had the UN succeeded in estab-

lishing an international force to

implement its partition resolution,

Israel would have remained with-

out Jerusalem and western

Galilec, without Jaffa, Lod, Ramle

and without Acre. Israel would not

have been able to absorb the mil-

lions of Jews who gathered here

had the Arabs agreed to the inter-

cational force and to partition.

The hesitation of the UN to act

against the Arab invasion of Israel

idea which the Arabs rejected 50

years ago, to station an interna-tional force between Israel and the

Palestinians. On the surface, this

seems like an innocent proposal

for the enhancement of the securi-

ty of Jews and Palestinians alike.

In fact, it is a transpareot attempt

to counterbalance Israel's demand

for the creation of security zones

beyond the '67 borders. It is also a

signal from Arafat that the

Palestinian agreement to live in

peace with Israel, as defined in the Oslo Accords, applies only to the shrunken borders of 1947, when

there were only 600,000 Jews in

the country.
It is highly doubtful that placing an international force in Israel

would deter a war between Israel

and its neighbors. Accumulated

experience with the UN has taught

that the presence of an internation-

al force does not prevent bloody

conflicts. But it is not Israel at

fault for the "spilled milk;" nor is

it because of Israel that the UN

desisted in sending an internation-

al force to implement the partition

resolution. The bloody riots which

the Arabs instigated the day after

the UN decision of November 29

were responsible, as was

American trepidation at the Soviet

proposal for superpower coopera-

tion in manning the international

force. Terrified of the "nightmare"

of having Red Army soldiers in

the Middle East, the Americans

rejected Moscow's proposal hands

The demand for an international

force constitutes part of a wider

Arah diplomatic offensive. This

led to a change of the map. This week Arafat raised the very

50 years ago.

**PINCHAS LANDAU** 

a cartel-like practice in the authority's august opinion - but for each to reach an agreement with its respective workers committee and to coordinate via the Supervisor of Banks at the Bank of Israel.

Eventually, a few months ago, it seemed that everything had finally been ironed out the banks would officially close on Fridays, but each bank would keep a number of

Throughout Its comic, five-year debate over the length of its workweek, the banking sector thought of everything except the customers' needs

branches open, in order to supply essential banking services to the public. The workers committees agreed (except that of Israel Discount, but that's a separate story), and D-Day was set for January 16, 1998.

However, last week Bank Leumi blew this supposedly happy state of affairs to smithereens. Leumi unilaterally announced that it had agreed with its workers committee to open all the branches on Fridays, while the employees would rotate their day off, some working Fridays and some Sundays.

In other words, the public would receive wider service, but the employees would go over to a five-

Arafat's new maneuver

The reaction among the other banks was one of fury, and among the regulators of confusion and puzzlement. But one newspaper posed the obvious question: "Why didn't anybody think of this sooner?" This way, everybody comes out ahead, so why not do it?

The answer is, as it has been throughout this nonsensical debate, that the last thing that bank managements and employ-ees considered was the needs of their customers. They were solely concerned with their relative positions, in terms of power, wages, costs, etc. The regulators, of course, were completely cut off from what the public wanted or needed, and focussed only on their bureaucratic turf battles and procedural matters.

However, the bottom line concerning bank branches is really very simple. They exist to serve the public, and nowadays the public wants longer and more convenient hours of access to retail services such as banking. It also wants electronic, telephone and other forms of banking services - but branches are still the staple of the bank-customer connection.

Leumi has shattered Israeli banking tradition by realizing that if it gives the customer what he or she wants, it will benefit, and its rivals will suffer. This is connected with the fact that competition in the retail sector now focusses on service, and Lenmi has served notice that from now on the rules of the game will be changed to recognize this reality, which in most other retail sectors has long been obvious. The other banks can gnash their teeth and wail, but that won't help them if they don't adapt their practices - and their thinking - to meet the challenge Lemmi has posed.

# Celebrate proudly

ESTHER WACHSMAN

Thy celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Smith of Israel? It's a waste of money, the national mood does not warrant it, there's dissent, disagreement, resignations, an organizational mess in the planning of events, and so on.

Perhaps only those of us who came to this country from the different diasporas can really experience the joy and pride of the 50- year landmark of the establishment of the lewish state, of the return to Zion of what it felt like to arrive in Israel, to see all the signs in Hebrew, to hear the Hebrew language being spokeo, to hear our radio and television broadcasters wishing us "Shabbat Shalom" and "Shavua Tov". "Chag Sameah" and Hatikva played at the end of the broadcast day.

Perhaps only those who lived as a minority group among gentiles, who imbibed a foreign culture, were inundated with Christmas carols for a few months a year, were the only family on the block without Christmas lights and trees, suffered looks of scorn by bus drivers when going to their Jewish schools between December 25 and January 1, and sometimes were even beaten up by some local thugs, can understand and appreciate life in the Jewish state, and not take it for

granted. During these days of Hanukka. let us not forget what happened 50 years ago, after one third of our people were burned in the ovens of Nazi Germany. After 2000 years of exile, the Zionist dream has come true. "When God returns us to Zion, we are as dreamers" has been fulfilled and I, for one, am grateful to make my home in Jerusalem, and raise my children as proud, strong, believing Jews, for they and most of our youth are wonderful, idealistic, bright and motivated children of vision and fulfillment.

The significance of Hanukka is the issue of a culture struggle. The struggle then was between Jews wishing to lead a life of Tewish values according to our heritage and those who wished to adopt foreign, Greek values. This struggle still exists, but Jewish values, traditions and beliefs have the upper hand. And so - yes - we have cause for celebration.

A great Zionist entity has arisen in 50 years - a very short period in the perspective of history. Absorption of immigrants from all comers of the earth, technological and scientific advances. educational economic and social progress and indeed excellence, are a source of great wonder and

Of course, there are problems and pitfalls, The hlight of unemployment sears our hearts, the health issue must be solved. problems of national security and peace must be worked out. But let us look at the glass that is half filled. Complaining is a national characteristic and pastime, and has characterized the Jewish people from the dawn of

our history. The children of Israel complained in the wilderness, and continued to complain after reaching the promised land. It seems that our collective memory as a people dictates continued complaints and bemoaning. But instead of cursing the darkness.

let us light a candle. Deeds, and not words should be the order of the day. Our sages tell us that 50 years is the age of advice. We are all experts at giving advice; perhaps our sages meant that at this stage we should also attempt to be mature enough to receive and accept advice. How desperately we need good advice at this stage.

Let us show our admiration and gratitude to all those great people who contributed and are now contributing to the great reawakening and rebuilding that our generation has been privileged to be part of: the return to Zion, the rebuilding of Jerusalem, the planting of our forests, the development of our towns and cities, the absorption of immigrants, the establishment of the finest yeshivot, the greatest hospitals, judicial system, enlightened democracy - the list is long. We have much to celebrate, much to be proud of and thankful for.

Together with our brothers in the Diaspora; we salute the State of Israel, we sing its praises, we love and cherish every centimeter of our land.

And we pray that the next 50 years be even more fruitful and promising, where every Jew will live in his homeland in peace, security, prosperity and joy. "Joyous is the man that such is his be wary of the many tempting offers lot - joyous is the man that the Lord is his God."

The Mark's son Nahshon was killed by Hamos terrorists in October 1994

### ETTERS TO THE EDITOR I

### MISUNDERSTANDING TURKEY

the words "beneath contempt"? Turkey is engaged in two historical experiments for which it should receive credit. One is the courageous and defiant forging of a relationship with the State of Israel. The other experiment is Turkey's determination to support a secular democracy in a region

where it is sorely lacking.

Recently, on December 9, the Turkish ambassador, voting on a draft resolution at the UN on the "Syrian Golan," stated the following: "There are several reasons for the current impasse faced in the peace efforts. We do not think it is fair to assign all responsibility on one of the elements or one of the

The Turkish statement adequately describes the position that the Post should have taken. THOMAS NEUMANN

of the conference.

countries involved. We need to

deal with each of the factors con-

tributing to the existing situation."

At the Islamic Conference, held

recently in Tehran, Turkey took a

beating because it would oot waiv-

er in its relationship with Israel,

and President Demirel walked out

Executive Director Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs Washington, D.C.

### HORSEBACK RIDING CURRICULUM

English.

Sir, - In your feature "Health Scan" of December 7, your reporter states that an educational psychologist by the name of Shai Roditi, after cooducting tests recently, has concluded that horseback riding improves the skills of learning-impaired children.

Sir, - It was with great disap-

pointment that I read the editorial

Turkey fails to shape up"

Israel, above all, should be sen-

sitive to the dilemma that Turkey

is facing in the court of public

opinion. Israel has been the victim

of false allegations and media

hype throughout the intifada. This

is similar to the situation that

Turkey is currently facing in its

efforts to defeat the terrorist PKK.

There is no question that there

are real problems with the way

Turkey has handled its Kurdish

minority. But, with whom does the

Jerusalem Post wish to compare

the Turkish behavior when it uses

(December 14).

This is very true but not new at all. My dyslexic grandson, who is now almost 20, attended a special (in more than one sense) school on Kibbutz Givat Haim, where horseback riding was an important part of the curriculum. Together with the rest of the successful teaching

methods, it changed him from a frustrated youngster into a well adjusted adult with many incredible talents, who can read as well as anybody, in Hebrew as well as in

I also would like to add that not all learning-impaired children suffer from disruptive behavior, which could be deduced from the article. I know that none of my three dyslexic descendants ever

CLAIRE LEEFSMA Yokne'am Illit

is very busy, its VIPs roam freely in our country. The fight against terror is reported daily. But not a word about the Covenant. Is it dead? Is there a Palestinian National Council? If so, where? I am afraid once the government has reached final status with the PA. it will belatedly remember that it forgot to ask about the Covenant and its threat against the existence of Israel.

### PA COVENANT

Sir. - The PA has all it needs and

REBECCA BEHAGEN Jerusalem

### FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On December 31, 1947, The Palestine Post reported that 2,000 Arabs, enraged by the killing of six Arabs in a bomb explosion near the main gate of the Consolidated Refineries on the Haifa-Acre road, ran amok, massacring 39 Jewish workmen and wounding another seven. Before the eyes of British officials, Jewish workers were beaten to death with axes, lengths of iron and other metal tools. The 50 Jewish office workers were refused permission by their British superiors to go to their colleagues' rescue and were locked inside the building.

Bodies of the killed were stripped of valuables and identity documents. Only after an hour and a half of murderous rioting troops appeared and brought the situation under control.

In Jerusalem the Hagana foiled Arab attacks on Kirvat Moshe and Beit Hakerem. The Arabs withdrew suffering a number of casual- from his township accusing them

ties. Raking fire from A-Tur village killed a British Police escon and a Jew attending a funeral on the Mount of Olives. Members of the Arab "National Guard" robbed and murdered Herman Ringle, 35,

who was walking near the Mamilla Road. Filled with Hadassah hospital workers, a No. 9 hus on its way to Mt. Scopus was attacked in the morning. Fourteen passengers and the driver were wounded A British constable was killed and another seriously injured in Rehov Agrippas. Two Jews were later seriously injured by a grenade thrown at the same

A 19-year-old boy was killed and six other Jews injured in sniping along the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border. Two Jews were killed in renewed acts of violence in Safed. The chairman of the Bat Yam Local Council urged the authorities to remove British armored cars of opening fire on the passers-by.

25 years ago: On December 31 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported the full story of the Bangkok Israeli Embassy drama where six Israeli hostages were taken and the four terrorists who had released them were facing a "trial" by Black September in Cairo.

Israel's Ambassador Rehavam Amir lauded the Egyptian Amhassador Mustafa el-Essawy for having negotiated the settlement. Israel took further steps to tighten the already stringent security precautions abroad.

The Ministry of Social Welfare was hlamed by Haifa Juveoile Court Judge, Aharon Melamed, for the "deteriorating state of affairs" in the treatment of juvenile offenders in Israel.

Two more Jews had been remanded as suspects in an alleged Syrian spy and sabotage ring.

drive is expressed in repeated attempts to include more and more countries as mediators in the con-Alexander Zvielli flict, in diametrical opposition to the Israeli doctrine of direct nego-

down.

### MOSHE ZAK

tiations. For years the Arabs thwarted any proposal for direct negotiations submitted by Israel at the UN. The Arabs were striving for a solution which would be forced on Israel. They demanded an international conference to settle the conflict, out of the belief that an anti-Israel majority in such a conference would be guaran-

**Dragging more** states into the conflict by offering them a role in mediation and participation in an international force

teed, as it was in the UN. Israel opposed this idea, and stood firm on the principle of direct, bilateral negotiations.

Compromise on this issue was expressed in two channels: 1) After the Your Kippur War, Israel-Egypt negotiations were launched at the Geneva Conference in December 1972, but proceeded bilaterally, eventually culminating in then-president Anwar Sadat's visit to the Knesset in Jerusalem. 2) After the Gulf war and the failed intifada, negotiations were launched at the Madrid Conference in October 1991, but proceeded as direct bilateral talks in Washington. Indeed, in each instance, both parties requested the help of the United States on logistical matters, such as the convening at Camp David for the signing of the treaty with Egypt, and at the White House, for the signing of the Washington declaration with Jordan. But it was the direct meetings - such as that of then-foreign minister Moshe Dayan with Egyptian deputy pre-mier Hassan Tohami in Morocco in 1977, and those of the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin with King Hussein in Amman and in London - which led to the break-

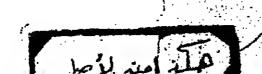
throughs. Israel was consistently opposed to widening the circle of countries, with the exception of the US, participating in the bilateral talks

and taking on the special services which included bearing the brunt of the enormous cost involved in the peace treaty. In his visit to Tel Aviv in January 1996, King Hussein justly boasted that the peace treaty was achieved without. foreign intervention. The formulation of the Washington declaration between Israel and Jordan signed on July 25, 1994 - was passed on to the US secretary of state only 16 hours prior to the signing on the White House lawn. Had the Americans taken part in formulating the declaration of principles between Israel and the PLO in Oslo, perhaps a fair amount of errors in the formulation would have been avoided. But the fact is that only after arriving at an agreement did Israel report to the US and request the latter's services for holding a sign-

ing ceremony at the White House.

The conclusion; a genuine agreement can only be reached after conducting direct hilateral meetings between Israel and any Arab partner. Now Arafat is trying to drag more and more mediators into the negotiations that he is conducting with Israel. He under-stands that the crumbling of the Soviet empire has limited the Arabs' maneuvering capability. It is thus that he is trying to get the European Union, Russia, Norway and Egypt to pressure Israel and the US into agreeing to include them as mediators. None of these countries is concerned solely about peace in the region. Each has its own interests. The Europeans want to become part of an international apparatus supervising the implementation of the Oslo Accords, just as they were included in the monitoring committee in Lebanon. The Russians have special interests in Iran and Iraq. Egypt wants to retain its standing as the leader of the Arab

The interests of the countries trymg to become involved in the mediation between Israel and the Palestinians are not identical. The only result liable to emerge is a compension for which of the countries will concede the most at israel's expense. Israel; thus, must of mediation. Peace will not come. of them Nor will peace and shalli-ty result from sending an interface. tional force as a surrogate to sectinty zones vital to Israel's safety.





# Four in one



By Judy Siegel Itzkovich

Mabat Lemada 4 ("View to Science 4"), a CD-ROM in Hebrew by the Center for Educational Technology (CET) in cooperation with Tel Aviv University's Center for Science and Technology Teaching, for ages 10 to 13, NIS 249

Rating: four-and-a-half stars out of five

any parents complain that schools don't really pre-pare their children for life, and that important issues such as following a healthful diet, the ecology, the sciences, and developing an idea from start to fmish - get short shrift.

This welcome and refreshing piece of software comprises four separate programs, each of which teaches a subject that generally gets little or no attention in the

Classroom.

Osim. Tensing 2111 (Dollar 1220 21)

Industry") challenges the user to the Poldness aikind scarecrow whichow an think like a businessperson, start—unlike his evolunterpart in The ing with a concept to solve a problem and following through to its solution by designing, manufacturing, marketing and advertising it to the public at large. The problem posed is how to relieve students' book-bag burden. One could attach balloons to make it hover or build a topot to carry it out the most blac tical solution is a wheeled cart to push it along to school.

The program presents many alternatives from design through sales. Using suggestions from inhouse advisers (a technician, safety engineer, merchandiser, designer and environmental expert), the child is given a basic allowance of NIS 150,000. All along, he or she must consider quality, expenses, environment and profits, sacrificing one for another. Should it be made of plastic, metal or wood? Should the wheels be large, medium or small? Should it be assembled by machine or by hand? Should second-rate carts be discarded or sold? Should it be advertised in youth magazines, daily newspapers or on billboards, TV or radio? As the little businessperson makes decisions and revises them. the profits and losses are calculated over a period of several months.

Masa Bema'arechet Hashemesh ("Voyage Through the Solar System") sends the user, as a space navigator, to save seven astronauts who have gotten lost in the universe. Various hints are provided about the planets and, using a database of information on temperature, composition, distance from the sun, time for revolution around the sun and number of moons, the user can conclude where each astronaut is to be

Ochlun, Nachon? ("Eating, Right?") is an unusual program to help youngsters learn about healthful diets. They are asked to enter their gender, weight, height and age and select what they eat on an average day, from among a large list of items. They click on the foods and drag them to plates representing the various meals and snacks. The program then calculates whether they consume too much of a certain food group and too little of another and are awarded with points and told bow to improve their diet. A smiling or frowning figure appears as a diet judge, who suggests adding an avocado or more milk, for example, to make it more balanced. tion triangle (with lots of complex carbohydrates and fresh produce on the top and few sweets on the bottom), as well as the basic food groups and a dictionary of terms,

are given in detail. Hayim Beyahad ("Living Together"), the final program, explains the interconnection of the

environment. The user is present-ed with a food chain of plants and animals and given problems to solve. A viper is seen in a wheat field: should it be sprayed, killed or otherwise disposed of? Is a chemical or natural solution (introducing a predator that will eat the snake) better? After solving

balance of nature and the imporance of ecology. The four programs, upgraded from CET's school software series Rama, is very enjoyable and edu-cational but would have benefited from more - and more sophisticated - animation. The industry secoon could bave offered more than one project. Although the price is higher than average, it's a bargain considering the fact that four separate pieces of software are

the problems, the youngster has a

much better comprehension of the

Travel the World with Poldy the Scarecrow: Colors, Shapes and Size, part of the Learn with the World Book Encyclopedia series, a CD-ROM in English only, for children aged three to six, available from World Book-Childcraft Ltd. POB 4364, 91043 Jerusalem, Tel. (02) 678-5605. NIS 249 (or significantly less if purchased with other World Book products).

packed into one disk.

Wizard of Oz. wishes he could fly instead of have a brain. The straw man meets up with a no-nonsense crow, a playful wagtail and a cautious seagull, who teach him to rise aloft, and the world is their classroom. They tour China, Africa and Brazil and along the way, the scarecrow teach young children about colors, shapes and sizes.

This competently produced disk, issued by the Chicago-based encyclopedia company, is obviously aimed at pre-school American children whose mother tongue is English. In Israel, it is suited to children of English-speaking parents as well as to sabras of the same age whose parents can translate the text or those who are a bit older and only beginning to learn English. Although it comes in the form of a computerized storybook, it is more interesting than the average, and the animated illustrations, colors and songs are of high standard. The disk includes four plcasant sing-along songs, with the written text shown on the screen and an accompanying booklet.

After flying to China, the four meet up with a giant panda who asks them to solve four riddles: locate squares, triangles, circles and rectangles hidden in a Chinese landscape. But in the touring sections, users remain passive observers, they aren't asked to identify the geographical shapes: these are pointed out during the telling of the story. In the Brazilian rain forest, the scarecrow and the hirds meet up with a pair of children who paint their bodies and Poldy's face and clothing with a rainbow of colors. In Africa, a dozen large and small animals are distinguished by their size, either

big or small. There are five games in which this knowledge can be tested. Ten different animal drawings can be filled in using the coloring-book section; in the color-mixing secoon, the user is asked to choose two basic colors to produce green, orange and purple. Small geomet-ric shapes have to be clicked and dragged with the mouse to make tangrams. In the Morph-o-Sizing game, they must separate six small African animals from six other large ones. In the final game, hidden geometric shapes must be

Young children will enjoy the action and the games, but these will likely grow tiresome after a while unless time passes between sessions. Pre-school Hebrew speakers who get no help from parents will probably be completely lost. The price, NIS 249, is quite the price of the stiff; most locally produced disks for this age group (or foreign disks translated into Hebrew) cost around NIS 150.

# More working Moms than ever

More than half of new mothers in America are going back to work before their babies are a year old, Faye Fiore reports

study American fertility habits has found more than half of new US mothers are going back to work before their infants can walk, a significant change from just a generation ago, the US

Census Bureau says.

The study found that full-time. stay-at-home moms are no longer the majority in America, with 55 percent of new mothers returning to the labor force in 1995 within 12 months of giving birth. In 1976, when the Census Bureau first began to track the trend, the

comparable figure was only 31%.
The older and more educated the mother, the more likely she is to return to work before her baby turns 1, with a soaring 77% of college-educated women 30 to 44 years old deciding to juggle motherhood and an outside job, the study showed.

"Here you bave a group of women who postponed children, got an education, went to work after college and probably have been fairly successful moving up in terms of income and sadsfacoon. It's hard to walk away from that," said Suzanne Bianchi, professor of sociology at the University of Maryland.

While the figures do not indicate whether women are returning to their jobs full ome, it does portray a nation of mothers who have spent the last 20 years deciding to go back to work in steadily increasing numbers before their babies toddle.

These women are more likely to be in professional positions and probably bave the ability to afford child care they are confident about. They don't want to lose their ability to move up. They also probably bave more interesting

work and that draws them back." said Christine Winquist Nord, senior study director at Westal, a Washington, D.C., research orga-

nization that studies families. The findings also reflect the increasing reliance of many American households on two paychecks, as well as the growing rate of single motherhood, experts

The census report, "Fertility of American Women: June 1995," surveyed nearly 57,000 households across the United States and found the American birthrate in

"The older and more educated the mother, the more likely she is to return to work before her baby turns one"

general is up substantially over the last 20 years. While 56 babies were born for every thousand women in 1976, the figure had

jumped to \$4 habies in 1995. Demographers attributed the rise to the influx of immigrants who lean toward what is considered in the US as larger families - particularly Mexican-born women, who have an average of two children

But the study also showed that once they arrive, Mexican-born women began to mirror the birth rate of women born in the United States, dropping to 1.2 babics

each, the national average. "They are not emulating their mothers, they are assimilating to the culture exactly like nativeborn Americans," said Amara Bachu, the demographer who produced the report.

All told, the study reflected increases in an array of child-bearing choices, suggesting women are choosing varied paths to suit their lifestyles rather than the confines of strict societal rules.

For instance, a continued increase in the so-called "Murphy Brown" syndrome was recorded, with a steadily growing number of never-married, older mothers opting to have a child. In the 1995 study, 21% of such women were mothers, up from 18% in 1990 (the first year for which the staosoc was available).

At the same time, more women were feeling free to decide to remain childless, an option once frowned upon in American culture. While just 10% of women between 40 and 44 years old were without children in 1976, 18% had made that decision in 1995.

Among those mothers most dis-posed to working, the birth of a second child increased the incentive to stay home, according to the report.

While more than three-quarters of the older, college-educated mothers returned to their jobs after the first child, only 56% went back

after the second baby came along. Experts said today's women are bucking the lifestyles they grew up with and doing it in a society not at all sure that motherhood and professional work mix. That cultural debate was highlighted by the overwhelming public attention given to the recent trial of a British au pair convicted of killing her 8-month-old charge while both parents were at work.

"I suspect many women are



Today's women are bucking the lifestyles they grew up with and doing it in a society not at all sure that motherhood and professional work mix.

struggling with trying to figure out the balance they need to achieve in their lives. They probably came from a mother who stayed at home and they are dealing with the image of what a 'good mother'

does," Bianchi said. "Society is also dealing with the image - if it was ever true - of the ideal family where women knew they were supposed to stay home and provide for the children and men knew they were the bread winners. And that really has changed for lots of reasons.

(Los Angeles Times)

# Teach your kids about the (re)cycle of life



By Ruth Mason

Tom, what happened to all our garbage? Where did it from an awed five-year-old who was looking at the first compost pile his family had created.

Composting with your kids has many benefits: First and foremost, it is a fun, consciousness-raising experience and a terrific scientific learning opportunity for them. Ouestions are sure to arise. Why are we doing this? What's wrong with throwing out all our garbage? How do carrot peels turn into rich, goodsmelling earth? You might have to do some research yourself to answer their many questions! Did

you know that over 50 percent of a you and your kids a sense of pertypical household's trash is organic garbage such as potato peels, citrus rinds and moldy, leftover rice? As the five-year-old quoted above now knows, there are far better destinations for this "garbage" than yourtrashican and the city dump.

We all know that garbage and what to do with it is a growing problem. Landfill space is running out. Planners are consideriog trucking our garbage to the Negev because there is hardly any space left in urban areas.

One effective, inexpensive soluown organic waste. Compost is a mixture consisting largely of deceayed organic matter and used for fertilizing and conditioning land. It's a process that happens naturally in the forest and everywhere else in nature. A garden is a great place for a compost bin or pile, but you can also compost in your home.

According to Elisheva Kaufman, Jerusalem composting and organic gardening trainer, composting garbage is good because it reduces your trash build-up, cuts down on garbage collection costs, and gives

sonal sadsfaction. It's good for your garden because it improves the condition of your soil, prevents erosion, conserves water, and increases your yield of flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs. But perhaps the biggest benefit is that is a simple way of recycling - of entering the circle of life (that your kids already know about from The Lion King) - by giving back to the earth what we take from it.

You can talk all you want about ecology, but having your kids participate daily in a project such as lessons that will last a lifeome. This is the spiritual side of composting. Just as we may say a blessing over bread, we can go a step further. We don't just take from the earth, we give back to it.

According to Kaufman, composting is a part of our tradition. It was done by ancient farmers in the land of Israel and is referred to in the Talmud and the Mishna. Here's how to do it: Tell your

kids that anything that once grew can be composted. Have them choose a container to

to deposit all food scraps. You can also include dust, hair, cut grass, and crushed egg shells. Avoid dairy products, meat, and anything oily. Your container can be a small: trash can or a bowl on your counter. We use a small metal. bowl and when it fills up, we put the contents into a plastic bag. At the end of the day, we put the hag in the refrigerator until we have time to take it to the compost pile in our local community garden.

keep by the kitchen sink in which

When you and your children compost, you become microorand fungi are tiny creatures that digest your food scraps and transform them into life-giving humus, the heart of the soil eco-system.

If you have a garden, have the kids dig a hig hole in the ground. Or you could use a barrel or other large container. Think of your composting project as something like baking lasagna. You want a layer of food scraps covered with a layer of something dry such as twigs, straw, hay, dry leaves or small branches. Cover this with a layer of dirt, and sprinkle water over the whole thing.

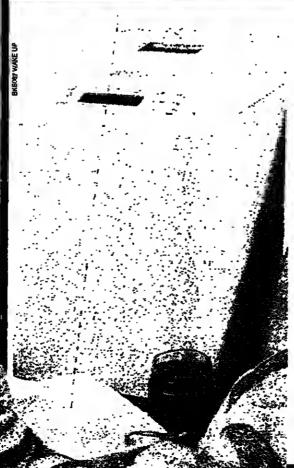
To keep the pile moist, you can cover it with a plastic sheet.

The next time you add to your compost pile, use the same threelayer system. Once your pile is about a meter high, leave it alone. At this point it will begin "cook-ing." Have your kids dig a bit into the pile with their hands to feel the heat. In a few days they will see steam rising as the microorgan-isms begin decomposing your kitchen scraps and turning them into rich, fertile compost.

After two to three months (when it smells like sweet forest earth), your compost is ready to be added to your gardening soil, put around your house plants, or "fed" to the trees, shrubs and flowers in your yard.

If you don't have a yard but want to get your kids involved in composting, don't despair. You and your children can do earthworm composting in a container right on your porcb or even in your living room! For instructions on how to do this, see Worms Eat My Garbage hy Mary Applehof or call Elisheva Kaufman, who has literature about composting in both English and Hebrew, at 050-777332.

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and David Brauner

# The knight's star: A real show stopper

Pright, colorful, enormous and truly a show stopper, the amaryllis has no equal. Its regal, starlike, trumpet-form blossoms come in vivid colors and are carried high on thick hollow stems covered in a very fine. smooth wax. Among all the indoor flowering

bulbs, this gorgeous plant is our favorite. Apart from being easy to grow, the amaryllis can be manipulated to flower at different periods. Also, unlike many other bulbs that are grown for indoor decoration, it is quite easy to get these to flower in the second year.

The amaryllis is officially known by its genus name Hippeastrum, from the Greek meaning "knight's" (hippeus) "star" (astron), hence its common name "knight's star lily."

Hippeastrum is member of the family Amaryllidoceae. All 70 species of the genus are native to the West Indies and tropical South America. The first of the genus to grow in cultivation was the Hippeastrum equestre (Barbados lily), which was introduced in 1698: Most bulbs for sale today are the products of hybridizing that began about 200 years ago. Breeders have lately developed many new and exquisite hybrids, which are making this plant ever more popular.

The flowers are unusually showy and large - on average 15 cm. across, but sometimes as wide across as 25-28 cm. The number of flowering stems varies. Generally, there are one or two, but sometimes a very large bulb will put out three stems, if you are lucky. The leaves oormally come after the flowers, or start to grow at the same time.

Years ago in Israel, if you wanted to grow one of these lovelies, you had bring the bulbs back from abroad. Today amaryllis is grown here, and every year more vari-eties are available on the local

Many people begin by growing one bulb and then get hooked. By staggering, that is, planting six or more bulbs, one or two at a time. you can enjoy the pleasures of

these magnificent flowers from early January to the end of May. When you see a bulb just beginoing to grow, then it is time to plant another one.

The following are our growing iostructions which we hope will clear the mysteries that surround the raising and maintenance of these fabulous tropical plants.

Light: Amaryllis are easily grown to perfection on a windowsill, or any plece where there is light available. In the warmer parts of the country, they can be raised outside in any sunny position that is sheltered against strong

Potting and watering: As these plants grow better when their roots are confined, they do not require a very large pot. "Tight potting" is unusual for most bulb plants. The emaryllis is an exception. Choose e clay pot, because the weight will add stability. Don't forget, the plant grows quite tall and becomes "top-heavy." Good drainage is essential, so if you have no cley shards to place in the bottom of the pot, you can use about 3-4 cm. of volcanic rock (Heb. toof). Without drainage, the plant is likely to rot from an excess of water.

Fill the pot about half full with a potting mixture (available in nurseries and garden sbops), and press it down firmly. Place the bulb (pointed end down) on the firm surface and press in more potting mix around the sides. The bulb should only be two-thirds buried under the soil. The distance from the bulb to the edge of the the pot should be six centimeters. Sprinkle on one tablespoon of low-release fertilizer.

After potting, water well, then do not water again until the soil feels "dryish" to the touch. It generally takes 14-21 days for the bulb to form roots. During this time take care not to overwater the bulb. because there is nothlog yet in the way of roots to draw up the water. If the soil is too wet, the bulb will rot. Once the plant is well established, water it whenever the soil becomes dry to the touch.

Temperature: If you can provide a temperature of 18°, you can start growing your amaryllis bulb any time. In winter, stand the pot near a warm radiator to spark off growth. When the flower buds appear, the temperature can be lowered to prolong flowering. Heat and light cause the flowers to

fade quickly. Feeding: The time to start feeding is after all the flowers have faded. Use either a liquid fertilizer every two weeks or a slow-release fertilizer according to directions. Fertilize every other week, or according to the directions on the label (liquid fertilizer). The aim is to have four good leaves to ensure there will be flowers next year.

Post-flowering care: If your plant bas two or more flowering stems, you can be sure that the bulb bas used up all its energy in producing its magnificent blossoms. It oow needs plenty of water, food and sunshine to build up its strength for next year's

Cut off the dead flowers as they fade, and eventually cut away the flowering stem right down to the bulb level. This way the plant does not use up valuable energy forming seeds.

Remember that the amaryllis must have at least four bours of direct sunshine a day to build up enough energy for future flowering. When the evenings warm up in late spring/early summer the pot can be laced outside in a sunny position.

Towards the end of September, you will notice the leaves of the plant turning yellow and starting to die back, signaling the beginning of the plant's dormant stage. At this time, stop watering and feeding.

If you grow your amaryllis in pots outside, it is a good idea to bring the pots indoors in dry place. Wait until the foliage has completely withered, and remove it completely. Then store the pot in a cool place and do not water during this time. After about two mooths of "cold storage," the whole process of growth and flowering will begin again .-- -

Second cycle: In the wild amaryllis grow all year round. However, in "captivity" a short resting period is beneficial.

You need to begin to wake up your bulb before you want it to bloom. From the "wake-up call" to flowering takes about 55 days (approx. eight weeks) in optimum conditions. First remove the top 4-5 cm. of soil with a teaspoon and recew it with fresh potting mix. Water the pot and add a table-spoon of slow-release fertilizer. It is not necessary to transplant the bulb to a larger pot unless it has become very crowded in its own root system. Too much reporting can result in loss of flowers.

After a few years you find small bulbs, known as "pups," appearing outside the mother bulb. The pups can either be left in the pot, increasing the amount of flowers, or detached and repotted separately to sprout new plants. Pups develop slowly and oormally bloom when 2-3 years old. If your new plant does not bloom, but keeps seeding out green leaves, don't give up on it - it may surprise you. Carry on watering and feeding, giving it the strength to bloom. Note: The leaves will stay green if the plant is watered too frequently. The bulb must be encouraged to go into a dormant state (as explained above), otherwise the chance of flowering is greatly diminished.

Propagation: The seed-grown plants may not resemble the pareot, but the experiment may be interesting for keen gardeners. So instead of cutting away the flowers, you may want to let them produce seeds and try your luck at sowing them. Let the flowers dry out completely on the bulb, whereupon with luck, seed pods will develop. Remove the seeds, let them dry out and sow them in a large pot or box. Transplant the seedlings to separate pots when they are large enough to handle, and grow in plenty of light.

Since amaryllis bulbs cost NIS 7-10 each in the shops, it is worthwhile raising 10-20 seedlings at a go. However, they take about four



Amaryllis: a gorgeous, vividly colored plant that is easy to grow

years to flower from seed.

Pests and diseases: Generally, Amaryllis are trouble-free, but if attacked by thrips, mealy bugs or scale insects, spray once, then repeat after two weeks. If you prefer an inorganic method, soak a cotton swab in alcohol and rub it on the infected area.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943. Jerusalem 91039.

or David Brauner, e-mail: morrir@ashur.cc.biu.ac.il

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# Six tips to prevent rabies



fter three deaths due to rabies over the last 13 months, it is worth reiterating some steps that can be taken to prevent the disease.

1. Spay your female animals and neuter the males. The main reservoir for rabies may well be found in the wild, but it is unvaccinated and untended stray animals that form the bridge between wildlife rabies and that of bumans. Not. only will spaying and neutering cut down the oumber of strays, but it also lessens the chance of an animal roaming into areas where it will be exposed. Only about 10 percent of the animals in \*good homes' remain bousehold pets.

Most end up as strays.

2. Make sure that your dogs and cats have rabies shots regularly. The law requires this for dogs, and not for cats, but it is for your own protection. This is true for all cats, but is especially important for those in villages and on the outskirts of cities, where a walk in the fields or woods may bring them in contact with a rabid fox or other animal.

3. Report all stray or otherwise suspicious-looking dogs to the regional or municipal veterinarian. Do not touch stray dogs or cats. And do not bandle the carcass of animals, wild or domestic, that have been victims of road accidents. While many healthy animals do get killed on the road, a sick animal, half blind and dazed by rabies; is more likely to become a victim. 4. If you get bitten by any ani-



Don't touch stray dogs or cats - report them to the local veterinarian.

with soap and running water. Use a strong stream of water and wash for several minutes. Notify the Health Ministry office in your area at once. The recent cases were from bites that were not reported or treated. 5. If possible, identify the

attacking animal so it can be taken into quarantine.

6. Do not approach or otherwise handle a strange animal Wild animals that appear in popolated areas and seem to be mafraid are most likely sick with

The symptoms of a rabid animal sponsibly.

mal, immediately wash the wound include: a display of erratic, inappropriate behavior and a tendency. to hide in dark corners - in a word, when the animal just doesn't seem to be itself.

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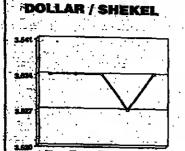
Don't contribute to the problem by permitting your pers to produce anwanted puppies or kittens. It is not true that a bitch or a cat has to have at least one litter in order to have a full, healthy life. Animals are not harmed in any meaningful way by being spayed or neutered. Rabies will remain a problem as long as people continue to make a bad situafrom even worse by behaving irre-



# BUSINESS&FINANCE December 31, 1997

**MARKETS** 

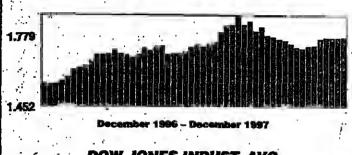
in brief



MAOF INDEX

OIL \$ per barrel of brent crude

DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.

### Visa, Isracard establish flexible payment plans

Visa and Isracard customers who pay their bills later in the month will not assume any extra fees or interest, company spokesmen confirmed yesterday. Isracard announced Monday its new option of payment on the second, 10th, 15th, or 20th of the month. Visa then announced it was offering its customers an option to pay on the 10th, based on a customer survey of payment preferences. The new system will include American Express and Mastercard.

Diner's, the first credit card in Israel, has always accepted payment on the second or 15th. Visa said its new system will begin in March, while Isracard has not yet set a date, although it is expected to begin in mid-1998.

### Small businesses good for jobs

Small businesses are able to quickly create jobs and are a cen-tral tool in reducing unemployment, Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky. Sharansky discussed the role of small businesses in providing a short-term solution to rising unemployment in a recent meeting with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman.

Sharansky noted that more than 90 percent of the country's businesses employ up to 50 workers. He said that based on the findings of his ministry, more investments should be made in small businesses, as they can make a significant impact. In July 1997, a small business fund was set up by the ministry, and through the end of October 2, 884 loans were approved. The ministry has found that each loan resulted in the addition of

### Harel Hamishmar buys 1/3 of Gvanim Finance

The Harel Hamishmar insurance group said yesterday that it had acquired 33 percent of Gvanim Finance for \$700,000. Gvanim, which started operating earlier this year, deals with portfolio management, advisory services on credit issues, and financial investments.

Dan Gerstenfe

### Bank suits against customers rose 82% in '97

The total sum of suits filed by banks against customers rose 82 percent in 1997 to NIS 620 million from NIS 340m. in 1996, according to figures published yesterday by Sagi Interest

Meanwhile, customer claims filed against banks fell 25 percent this year to NIS 240m. from NIS 320m. in 1996. The decline was mainly due to the fact that most of the kibbutzim and local authorities preferred to reach an agreement with the banks instead of continuing the legal process.

In 1997 the commercial banks returned NIS 60m. in out-of-

court settlements to clients who claimed they were overcharged

### Deutsche Telekom, Vocaltec reach deal

Deutsche Telekom and VocalTec Communications yesterday announced they had reached a final agreement whereby Deutsche Telekom will acquire a 21.1 percent stake in VocalTec and will purchase more than \$30 million of VocalTec's products and services, including at least \$21.7 million by December 31, 1999. The agreement, first announced in August, is subject to final approval by the companies' boards of directors. Jennifer Friedlin

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE TENDER NO. 98/1/D.A.

SHIPMENT OF GRAINS IN AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS In connection with the need to meet the Government's undertaking regarding the carriage of goods, the Accountant General invites relevant proposals, which should give rates for the shipment of grain from the United States to Israel, in American Flag vessels for the period

between January 15, 1998 and April 15, 1998. Proposals should be submitted to the Ministry of Finance by January 14, 1998 (at 9 a.m.).

Details are available from Mr. Yitzhak Klein or Mr. Avi Dor, Department of the Accountant General, Ministry of Finance, 1 Kaplan St., Jerusalem, room 533, Tel. 02-531-7457, 02-531-7461.

In first market interference since June:

# Bank of Israel purchases \$70 million to weaken shekel

The Bank of Israel intervened in shekel trading yesterday for the first time since mid-June, buying almost \$70 million to prevent the currency basket from falling below the lower edge of its trading hand, foreign currency dealers said.

Since the government widened the trad-ing band in mid-June, the central bank bas not had to intervene in the market. The shekel can fluctuate in a trading band designed to devalue the shekel on an annu-

The decision in June to widen the band was followed by an anoouncement from

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel to slash interest rates by 1.4 percentage points and a series of steps to liberalize foreign

currency trading.

Dealers said the central bank started buying dollars by midday yesterday, just before the setting of the representative rates. They said the currency basket traded below the lower edge of the trading band for most of day.

The shekel depreciated 0.2 percent against the dollar to NIS 3.5340, while it appreciated 0.11% against the basket of currencies to NIS 3.37857.

Dealers attributed the decline of the basket - which is composed of the dollar,

mark, sterling, French franc and yen - to the rise of the US currency abroad. They added that trading was also influ-

enced by conversions of foreign currency made by the business sector for end-of-the year payment and from the expiry yesterday of the dollar-shekel options for

The majo reason for the shekel's strength is that high interest rates preveot the local currency from falling.

The decision of the ceotral hank on Monday to leave interest rates unchanged at 13.4% adds to economists' forecasts that the shekel will remain strong in the near

With relatively high interest rates and inflation expectations for 1998 of less than 7%, shekel-linked deposits are considered an excellent investment.

In addition, many Israeli companies prefer to take foreign currency-linked loans, which carry lower interest rates.

Despite that, the Bank of Israel said yesterday the decision to wideo the trading band and the foreign currency reform raised the risk of foreign currency trading.

According to figures published by the central bank, the sum of foreign currencylinked loans rose by only \$700m. in the



### Here's to a good year

A trader at the Frankfurt bourse celebrates the final trading day of 1997, a year which has seen the DAX share index climb a

## **Number of IPOs** to rise in 2nd qtr. of '98

**Ex-Israel Chemicals** 

boss to get NIS 50,000

monthly pension

### By DAN GERSTENFELD

The number of public offerings on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is expected to rise to the second quarter of 1998, Leumi & Co Underwriters general manger Yakir Gabay told The Jerusalem Post yesterday.

Leumi & Co., which was the leading underwriter in 1997, participated in 25 offerings that raised a cumulative NIS 1.6 billion. Gahay said the oumber of equity offcrings is expected to remain low, and companies will prefer to issue convertible and corporate boods.

He said companies will return to raise money by equity offer-ings only if the stock markel rises

According to figures giveo by the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, 121 offeriogs were conducted during the first 11 months of 1996, in which NIS 5.7 billion

The board of directors of Israel

Chemicals yesterday approved a moothly peosion of NIS 50,000 for Uri Beo-Nonn, the former chairman of the Dead Sea Works.

Ben-Noon previously demanded

a compensation package including options worth NIS 8 million.

hoard meeting as stormy, with

some directors arguing that the

Beo-Noon will receive the

monthly pension for the rest of

bis life, as well as severance pay

Invest in the world's major exchanges

agreement was "too generous."

Sources described yesterday's

Gabay said the number of offerings in February is expected to be relatively low as companies usually prefer to file prospectuses that are based on the annual report rather than on the first nine months of the year.

The number of offerings is, therefore, expected to rise in the April-March period, when companies can begin distributing their annual forecasts. Gabay added that an improve-

ment in the primary market (the IPO market) depeods on the situation in world markets. "The stability of Wall Street is necessary for further recovery of the primary market," he said.

Since most of the companies plan to offer bonds, the rise in the number of public offerings also depends on the conditions of the bond market.

Gahay estimates that honds prices will continue to rise in 1998, as inflation is expected to decline, pushing yields lower.

based on his last monthly salary.

Ben-Nun is to resign today

from the chairmanship and from

Israel Chemicals' board of direc-

Israel Chemicals chief execu-

tive Igal Diamant is expected to

replace him as chairman of the

Dead Sea Works. Last week the

company announced Ben-Nonn

between Ben-Noon and the man-

agement of Israel Chemicals

came to a bead last month, after

the company's board of directors

decided to appoint a special com-

mittee to check investments in its

would be leaving.

Long-standing

magnesium project.

### Psagot unveils high-tech mutual fund By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN Experts said they expect more

Psagot, a Tel Aviv-based mutual fund management company, yesterday announced the unveiling of its first high-tech mutual fund, Psagot High Tech.

The fund will be the second high-tech mutual fund in Israel. Earlier this year, Evergreen announced plans to establish a mutual fund that would invest at least 50 perceot of its capital in technology companies that had advanced beyond the start-up

Daniel Silhiger, deputy general manager of Psagot, a subsidiary of Bank Leumi, said the company decided to dedicate its 20th mutual fund to investments in the hightech industry because of the sector's strong growth potential.

The economy is moving from a labor intensive one to one that depends on research and development in the bigh-tech sector,' Silhiger said. "[High tech] is the leading sector in the economy."

Psagot High Tech will invest at least 50% of its holdings to publicly traded technology companies that operate primarily in the communication, biotechnology and telecommunications fields.

The fuod also has the option to invest half its capital overseas.

high-tech mutual funds to spring up as the high-tech industry matures and more start-ups public cither on Wall Street or the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

"Israel has had a tremendous venture capital market here and as it gets to the next step there will be more high-tech companies on the stock market and more funds will get involved," said Douglas Goldsteio, director of Profile Investments, a division of Oscar Gruss & Son.

The opportunity to invest in high-tech motual funds also means that the individual investor will be able to minimize the risk associated with investing in the more volatile technology stocks.

"High-tech investments tend to be high yield with high risk, but if an investor buys the fund and there are 10 companies than the risk is dispersed," said Silbiger.

Prior to the establishment of Psagot High Tech, the company set up Psagot Focus, a mutual fund invested in export-related companies that bas reported yields of 60% in 1997, Silhiger

Psagot's total assets under management total about \$723 million. The company has a 13% market

### Gal-Yam: Asia crisis will slow growth

An investigation by State Income Commissioner Tsipi Gal-Yam indicates that the crisis in Asia will mean that growth in 1998 will fall 0.5 percent below the Ministry of Finance's previous

industrial sectors' exports to Asia compared to the rest of the world shows that 33% of diamond production goes to the East, followed

"The distribution of the various

by macbinery, appliances, and electronic equipment with 21,5% of their production. Quarried products are next with 20% of their output, followed by optical and medical instruments with 19%," she said.

However, Trade and Industry Ministry deputy director-general for foreign trade Zohar Peri said there's a positive side to the doomand-gloom forecast.

According to Peri, Gal-Yam said the crisis means new niches are opening up to exporters to the Far East, including Israeli ones, that had previously beeo held by com-panies that collapsed in the crisis. "One shouldn't flee in panic.

Consideration should even be given to participating in exhibi-oons, such as the air display in Singapore at the start of the new year," she said.

Korea comprises 20% of all

Israel exports to Asia (excluding diamonds), while exports to Thailand make up 11% (excluding diamonds). (Globes)

### July-November period, compared with a rise of \$4.8 hillion in the first half of 1997. IAI chief sees trouble

The chairman of Israel Aircraft Industries said oo Monday that American and European conglomerates would put state-owned defense firms out of husiness if

ahead

they failed to privatize and merge. Avigdor Ben-Gal said that he believed Israeli leaders were blocking sale of the companies because they feared the political and financial price was too high.

"In the end we're going to become passe, void of technological or financial power. We'll erode. The competitors, Americans and Europeans, will even push us out of our traditional markets," said Ben-Gal.

The government would take no major steps towards privatizing IAI and two other state-owned defense firms before elections scheduled for 2000, he said.

IAI's 14,000 workers manufacture mainly defense systems for domestic and international markets. IAI competes for contracts against, among others, American giants Boeing and Lockheed, Martin, which have merged with competitors in recent years.

IAI turned a profit in 1997 for the first time in years, earning \$22 million on \$1.7 billion in sales. Ben-Gal said the company had an orders backlog of \$3.3b.
But he said IAI was wasting mil-

lioos by competing with other Israeli firms, including Israel Industries-TAAS and Rafael (Armaments Development Authority), instead of cooducting its marketing, research and development with those companies.

"Israel must decide within a very short time if it can afford such a huge waste of resources or if it should make drastic revisioos and reforms in its military indus-

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu bas raised a record NIS 8h, this year from selling shares in state-owned firms and has vowed to privatize many more. Despite this, Ben-Gal is pessimistic.

"As long as the workers oppose it, it won't happen. They have enough political and economic suength to block privatization and the raising of private capital," said Ben-Gal, who was appointed in

He said the first step was for the Treasury to negotiate a redundancy package with workers in case privaozing and merging the three state-owned companies led to dismissals. Treasury officials have refused to do so because they do not want to allocate billions of shekels for a potentially large layoff, he said.

Together, the three state-owned companies employ about 25,000 people. Ben-Gal said 3,000 would have to be sent home if reforms were implemented. Union leaders are demanding that redundant workers receive \$250,000 in severance pay, stocks and options, he said.

"We're talking about a total of \$750 million to compensate workers and move ahead with privatization. That's a small price to pay,"

Without reforms, he said, the defense firms would exhaust their cash flow, run out of money for research and development, and lose their ability to attract top scientists and eogineers.

"If these three problems converge, occur at once, then we're liable to collapse," Ben-Gal said.

The Treasury transferred \$100m to IAI earlier this month to solve the company's cash flow crisis. In the last five years, the government has spent \$1h. bailing out state-owned defense firms. But IAI's latest government grant came with a provision that the company must raise capital by offering shares to the public or selling off assets the next time it runs out of working

Ben-Gal said another crisis could ensue within a year if no reforms were instituted.

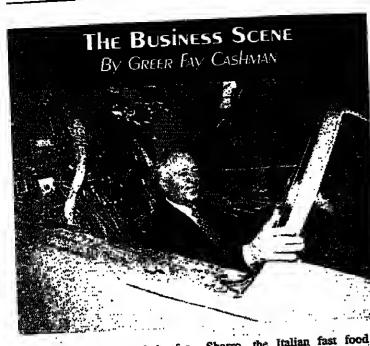
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Climbing into the cockpit of a plane for some hands-on experience at the control panel is a real thrill for many people - especial-ly men who are senior figures in the defense establishment. So, when Turkey's Deputy Defense Minister Lt. General Tuncer Kiling (above) visited Israel Aircraft Industries last week, he couldn't resist the opportunity to sit in the cockpit of a Phantom.

Gideon Marks, who served as Chief Financial Officer of the RAD Group for the last 10 years, will join the investment banking team of Jerusalem Global Lid. within the next few weeks. Marks will be responsihie for representing US invest-ment bank, NationsBanc Montgomery Securities.

During his tenure at RAD, Marks managed the financial operations of RAD Datacommunications, and younger companies such as Lannet Data Communications, RADCom, RADVision, RADNet, and GigaNet.

Danny Schneider has been appointed general manager of the Dan Hotel, Eilat. Schneider pieviously managed the Palamida and Paradise hotels in Eilat and was deputy manager of the Carlton Hotel, Tel Aviv.

Nissim Shalem has been unanimously elected chairman of the Council of Youth Movements in

Sylvia Beit Halachini, spokesperson for Israel Aircraft Industries, and Yoram Shamir, head of Tel Aviv University's department for external relations, have been elected by the Israel division of the International Public Relations Association as Israel's delegates to IPRA. Both are past chairpeople of the Israel Public Relations

Shlomi Punk has been appointmanager for the local division of to MK Naomi Blumenthal.

Sbarro, the Italian fast food chain. His responsibilities will include developing additional Sparro franchises, Punk, 33, was the manager of the first Sbarro outlet in Israel in Tel Aviv's

Dizengoff Center.

Uriel Azran has been named internal comptroller for Africa

Shishu Eintziger has been named marketing manager responsible for training to improve the services of the Houigman fashion company, which has one of the largest chains of stores in Israel. She is also in charge of Honigman's public relations and advertising and will work in conjunction with the external PR and advertising firms retained by the company. She was previously the senior accounts executive with Geller Nissim Advertising.

Hania Hacohen has been hired as the external legal edvisor to the Israel Property Owners Association. The daughter of District Court judge Zvi Hacohen, Hacohen has her own legal pracoce, IPOA chairman Avi Rahan said that Hacohen was retained in line with the Association's plans to expand its octwork of legal advisors.

Attorney, Rivka Meller-Olshitzky is the recently elected chairwoman of the Israel Womeo's Network, replacing founding chairwoman Alice Shalvi, who stepped down after 13 years. The new IWN board comprises Rina Bar Tal, deputy mayor Ra'anana; Gabriella Bar Zakai, deputy mayor of Ma'ale Adumina; Orly Bitty, chairwoman of the national Labor Party Women's Forum; Michal Cafri, advisor on the Status of Women to Communications Minister Limor Livnat and Pazit Elni-Ashkenazi, parliameotary aide

# Navigating into the new year argue that investing is about buy-

The end of the year has been rough. The portfolios monitored in this column have retreated from some of the gains they made over the last 18 months and underperformed the main indices for the year. However, compared to the starting point, they are still comfortably ahead of

With a Monday morning quar-terback's 20/20 vision, I oow regret not taking more money out of the New York-traded technology stocks, which have come under such pressure in the last few weeks as 6 result of the turmoil in the Far East. Both Orbotech and Tower Semiconductor have more than halved from their highs and the portfolios have paid the price of holding them.

As I have said all along, these are buy-and-hold portfolios that aim for absolute rather than relative performance, meaning the capital is protected. So I'm not too bothered that the market has outpaced us in 1997; the returns we generated were pretty decent in

absolute terms. The problem is going to be navigating the murky waters of 1998. First, there is the January effect. That's the phenomenon of US investors selling holdings before year's end to establish tax losses

With a rocky end to 1997, investors must think about positioning themselves wisely as '98 begins

after New Year's Day, which usually causes stocks to rise in January. But it's not clear whether that will happeo this time. Things in Korea are still pretty nasty there was another big bankruptcy over the weekend - but the market may decide the worst is behind us.

Similarly, the technology stocks, which some argue were overvalned anyway, have taken quite a pounding, so the hargain hunters' turn may have come. Alternately, the pain in Asia - one of the main engines of world economic growth - might be expected to last a long time. That could lead to expectations of a slowdown in demand for such technology products as semiconductor equipment, disk drives, computers and software. If this happens, international technology compa-nies will feel the pain in their

profits and stock prices. Add to this the growing concern over underlying trends in the tech-nology market - like the impact of the under-\$1000 PC - and who knows what technology stocks will do in 1998.

The Tel Aviv market isn't any

which they can use to offset their gains, they return to the market

better off. There is plenty of capital around, especially after the year-end influx of funds to various tax-driven vehicles which the institutions will need to invest somewhere. Inflation seems to be coming down, although the govcrament's difficulties in getting the budget passed may well have a negative impact on the macroeco-

nomic outlook if too many expensive concessions need to be made. The peace process is on a slow track right now, though who knows when the government will be pres-sured into new concessions. Some of the country's traditional industries are in their last death throes and the government is under pres-

sure to move backwards in time. While everyone's heart goes out to those who will lose their johs if yet another textile factory goes out of business, the truth of the matter is that 100 textile factories have closed in this country over the last

Egypt or Jordan or China or Indonesia The low added-value work has

this merring knack for finding its way to where labor is cheapest. So an NIS 9 million subsidy to keep Gibor Sabrina going for a few more months is a pretty meaningless effort to interfere with market forces. Sadly, neither this government oor the last one has come up with any good ideas to address the issue of unskilled or semiskilled workers from traditional industries who have been laid off as those industries decline.

Going into 1998, the picture is one of considerable uncertainty on all macro fronts, worldwide and in Israel. I want to watch the market from the sidelines until some of the volatility goes away. New York has been subject to violent swings ever since the Asian trouble began in Hong Kong, and Tel Aviv has been trailing behind. The local market does not have a very good feel to it right now; calm and patience seem

to be the order of the day. Home Center has done very well for us. But with the real estate market stagnant and the economy slowing, the prospects for a retail stock which sells to the housing market look less than rosy. However, the company has bene-fited from some consolidation in the sector. If the market goes bad, this is exactly the kind of stock that could be an orphan for a very long time. So I'm going to sell the entire position.

Notwithstanding my concerns about the sector, I'm not about to look a total bargain in the mouth, even if we have to sit with it for a while. All the investment greats. does so at his or her own risk.

ing companies not stocks. When a good company's stock drops, investors should react gleefully this affords buyers the opportunity to buy more stock at a lower price, even up to the point where an investor can own the whole company. Once an investor owns the company, the short-term stock price is irrelevant.

Over the past couple of years I have followed the Mario Laznik groop from dire financial straits through the Swary-Yochman recovery plan to the Fishman

The market has become boxed buy-in. with Laznik, partly because there has been little news and partly because the stock is very thinly traded; it is closely held in insider hands. Also, last quarter the company and its subsidiaries reported a drop in profits, though closer examination revealed that this was simply a function of some arcane accounting for CPI effects which can artificially inflate profits one quarter and defiate them the next. As a result, the prices of all the shares in the group have drifted downward.

So, I'm putting NIS 2,000 of the proceeds of the sale of Home Center back to work by buying some more shares in Laznik Commerce Naturally, I have some concerns about the real estate market, but the current share price basically takes account of the company's shopping center hold-ings and throws in for free a half share in one of the leading office developments in the center of Tel Aviv, the profits from which could easily treble the company's value.

The writer works in the investment industry and may hold positions in securities mentioned in the column. This column should not be taken as advice to buy, sell or continue to hold any securities and anyone acting on the advice of this column

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	Dan Hotels	425.65	8.81	3,525	\$27.00	0,393.00
		67.00	\$14.50	5,025	8.06	4,487,80
1	Orbotech	556.80	·· 8.98	5,010	8.47	5,420.80
l	Jafora Tabori	640.00	7.79	5.025	3.55	5,085.94
l	Ytong	1,432.66	3.49	10,017	376.00	10,528.00
1	IDB	28.00	357.05	10,017	- 5,10.05	38,955.52
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١	Laznik Commercial ordinary	16.31	283.28	4,641	\$9.38	9,674.3
1	Chil Electronics	292.00	\$5.75	6,584	4.58	15,976.7
١	Tower Semiconductor	3,488.37	2.58	9,023	5.49	6,697.1
1	Israel Chemicals	1,219.88	3.32	4,075	\$11.00	8,707.7
1	Delek Anto	224.00	\$11.00	8,482	1.39	5,326.9
١	Biotech General	3,846.15	1.30	5,025	131	5,097.0
1	Leuri Mortgage convertible	3,906.25	1.38	5,025	95.50	11,460.0
اع	Grant convertible series 2	120.00	81.62	9,819	258.00	12.210.
3	Discount Investments	47.33	211.30	10.025		8,114
Aggressive	Israel Corporation	100.22	41.59	7,525	45.00	4,182
	Orda Print		6.85	5,020	\$5.73	4,738
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Kvun Flexible	118.12	115.11	- 6.42 - 3.76	+ 21.65	76.0
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Melanium Nodels <u>S</u> hkula	109.98	107.65 61.43	- 6.49		4.3
Models Shkula Models Teuza Moritz Money Market Nesua Flexible	121.87	131.67	+ 1.26	+ 15.58	14.7
Moritz Money Market	2517.40	2502.04	- 2.46	+ 20.95	13.3 0.8
Nesua Flexible	119.75	119.40	-13.15 - 1.46	+ 22.82	48.5
		844.74	- 1.54	+ 19.33	27.2
Omer Pekan		198.95 95.77	. 2.23	+ 26.95	6,1
Orner Pekan	97.48		- 5.37	+ 15.81	29.1
		880.21	- 1.57	+ 23.02	339.8
Pia Kela	326.68	324.07	- 6.06	+ 35.18	93.7 157.2
Psagot 100 Psagot Gamish	565.81	545.98	- 4.73	+ 29.35 + 43.81	137.2
Pagga Gariasi	169.91	168.13	+ 0.01	+ 26.11	2.2
			- 3.58 - 1.96	+ 23.21	205.2
Saar Pekan	187.72	167.10	- 3.03	+ 23.44	10.1
Saar Pekan Sigma Flexible Sivan	97.40	96.38 254.22	- 2.30	+ 43.77	65.8
Sivan		121.89	- 4.20	+ 12.32	4.4
Telescope	122.24	97.51	- 3.37	+ 13.12	3.0
Yaad Flexible	2073 9	5 2921.39	- 5.52	+ 19.62	47.9
Yead Flexible Yesodot	92.5	91.67	- 8.79	+ 13.54	3.2 2.7
Zeller Flexible Zon Flexible		3 13668.15	- 2.88	+ 13.96	41

Zon Flexible				-	
Carry of Table 1	- SHA	RES			
M.		110.59	- 4.85	+ 18.28	74.3
Adil Pekan	112.30	268.20	- 5.13	+ 25.53	24.1
		150.19	+ 0.09	+ 14.89	2.3
		214,13	- 6.22	+ 11.02	11.6
		318.22	- 3.81	+ 24.14	4.6
		143,75	- 3.04	+ 34.70	59.6
			- 1.67	+ 32.79	141.6
		1123.18	- 1.66	<b>→ 35.56</b>	57.5
		349.64	-3.17		10.5
Apex Shares	97.11	96.68	-3.11	_	38.7
				+ 40.00	6.4
Baron	212.96	209.13	- 3.21	22.32	3.7
Baron	89.47	88.33	- 1.99	+ 40.44	B.4
Capital Shares	115.40	113.39	- 0.36	+ 32.26	14.5
Chemical Pekan	219.54	238.81	+ 0.11		3.6
		143.82	- 3.31	+ 24.85	16.5
		99.64	- 3,43	+ 44.28	46.1
		202.56	- 0.15	+ 31.71	58.3
		508.80	- 1.35	+ 35.95	58.0
		116.35	- 4.78	+ 30.89	
		121.00	- 3,26	+ 38.02	31.0
		70.09	- 2.27		49.9
		344.59	- 4.12	+ 16.26	44.1
Odkla Mivnen		J-1,4-	_	_	12.5
		1512.10	- 1.90	- 34.22	104.0
Paris May	1524,03	118.72	- 6,14	+ 24.68	20.4
Downt Shiert Caram	121/19	105.41	7.35	+ 26.03	21.6
Dovrat Shrem Shares	107.61	103.41			3.1
Emda Const	<del></del>	-505.43	- 4,68	<b>± 16.82</b>	29.7
Emris Corom	1595,17	1565.43	-3.68	+ 35.10	12.9
Emda Export	82.24	81.79	- 3,00	, 40,	

					NIS	
		uption mor	ntbly	yleid 997 (%1 (mi	genets Lious)	Fun
und's passe	mait cost	buce Areas	(70)	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		
		210.31 -	0.13	+ 32.56	35.7	Di
mda Maofmda Mishtanim		950.98 -	2.37	+ 34.16 + 39.85 + 32.58	61.0	Di
mda Mishtanim	176.39	175.43 .	2.77	+ 39.85	13.0 16.0	D
mda Mismanus mda Paz	. 155.53	155.15	3.69 2.62	+ 32.02	12.6	00
nsion 36	98.55	98.18	5.66	+ 28.81	19.0	Ð
oston Shares	178.48	31R 29 -	- 3.36	- 25 E4	176.3	E
rez Pekan	590.07	578.11	- 3.62	+7.14	2.4 58.4	H
Sn	159.25	155.45	0.98	± 31.48	23.8	H:
vergreen Shares	156.34	154.97 227.89	- 4.13 - 7.18	+ 16.76	9.8	B
scelence Caram	555.85	552.75	- 5,85	+ 17.94	6.9 7.7	11
Licellance Shares	130.48		- 4.03 - 0.17	+ 37.00	13.5	ľ
3a	112.48	107.29	- 3.72	+ 44.56	98.8 20.5	Ļ
Hon Pekan	104.97	104.31 92.58	- 4.95		11.6	i
gud Maci	92.90	141.90	- 0.32 - 3.97	+ 32.01 + 18.77 + 56.84 + 35.92	18.4	į
Igud Shares	160.52	159.68	- 6.27	+ 18.77	130.1 62.0	
lianot Caram	105.03	1D4 4B	- 5.67 - 2.36	+ 55.84	110.2	į
Hanot Oekel	3055.94	3040.22 2693.75	- 210	+ 35./0	74.8	
Hanot Duvdevan	92.17	91.66	- 3.37	+ 32.73	13.8	
Tenot Globe	22-2-		- 0.16	+ 32.57	15.6 58.3	
lianot Maof	200.26	199.29 81.96	- 7.53	+ 16.42	10.2	
flanot Nimrezet	4909.07	4883.36	- 1.56	+ 36.41 + 25.20	10.4	
llanot Shares	55.59	55.29	- 8.16 - 3.18	+ 25.20	141.3	
Nanot Shesek	689.55	884,91	_	_	1.8	
mida Misor mida Mishtanim mida Mishtanim mida Paz mida Shaiheveti. pision 36 gasion Shares rez Pelcan shares reze Pelcan shares reze Pelcan shares specience Caram specience Shares syal Shares sal hon Pelcan gud Misor gud Caram gud Misor Garam lianot Caram lianot Caram lianot Caram lianot Caram lianot Caram lianot Caram lianot Shares lianot Research Shares lianot Shares Pelcan Kora Pelcan Morey Market	180.99	160.49	- 2.32	+ 29.02	113.8 16.2	
Kohav Pekan	124.05	124.05	+ 1.40		3.5	
Koor Money Markel Koor Shares Lahak Agresivii Plus Lahak Arkor Lahak Caram Lahak Hahata	90.14	89.00 83.77	- 3.38	_	35.4	
Lahak Agresivit Plus	842.30	823.09	- 3.14 - 6.43	+ 27.67	43.8 57.6	
Lahak Ankor	108.15	823.09 107.31 300.27	- 6.43	+ 35.83	14.9	
Lahak Hatrata	305.66	124.76	-4.80		46.5	
		_	_=	+ 30.87	16.4 83.8	
Lahak Tor.	424.44	416.98 71.73	- 0.83		30.4	
Lehak Yetsu	71,95	787.31	- 3.95 - 3.75	+ 30.53	71.6	
Lahak Zamir	185.89	182.62	+ 0.0	9 + 28.45 8 + 17.56	71.0 12.6	
Mage Madi recall	254.16	249.86 106.04	- 5.8 - 4.5		12.6 7.3	
Lahak Rom. Lahak Tor. Lahak Vetsu Lahak Zamir Mada Med Pekan Magu Metar Caram Metar Options.	107.14	40.33	- 4,4	8 +23.15	8.3	
		198.03	- 3.9	7 +31.78	4.8 3.8	
Mercazil Caram	63.87	63.68	-6.5 -0.2	0 +30.62		
Mercazil Caram Mercazil Maof Mercazil TA 100 Necrazil TA 100 Necrazil TA 100 Necrazil TA 100	161.58	191.13 263.23	- 1.7	9 +30.71	3.0	
Mercazil TA 100	254.00	55.57	- 4.E	e . 97 97	21.1	
Nesua Shares	437.76	435.D1	- 3.0		11.1	
MESTER PARENTS	1003.43	990.12	- 3.1 - 3.1		2.9	
Omega	121.59	119.44	- 13		1.9	
Otzar Foreign Int. Par Otzar Sal Caram	85.12	83.62	- 1.3 - 6.3	31	. 9.1 7.6	
Otzar Sal Garam	109.39	107.47	-2			
Otzar Sal Garam Otzar Shares Pia 2000 Pia Bdolach	89.11	68,63 969,54	- 6. - 1.	09 4315	95.7	
Pra Bdolach	986.95	125.30	- 8.	70 + 123	2 51./	
ра мапы	193.55	190.15	- 0.	81 + 30.0	3 98.7 1 143.2	
Pla M80f	759.07	755.09	- 2. - 3.	76 + 31.3 29 + 30.9	/ 1/3-	
Pla Maor Pla Michiol Pta Odem	1160.38	1139.67	- 3		37.9	
Pla Ckamic	1029 79	1011.50		.35 + 23.6		
		60.79	-4	.76 + 23.0	B 50.2 _ 0.7	
Pag ZITUK		~ 20		21 +25.7	2 50.5	
Pa Zinuk Pritza Psagot Ai. Psagot Focus Psagot Karam	82.86	81.38 104.60		62 +52	3 107.1	
Psagot Focus	105.16	177.60	) •5	.82	_ 712	
			3 -	.13 +35. .06 +45.		
Psagot Maoar Lashaum Psagot Menayot Psagot T-A Mishlanim .	808.47	804.05		5.06 +45. 2.15 +47.	77 148.0	•
Peapor T-A Mishlanim .	355.74	353.80 137.8		5.00 + 14.	92 7.0	
			1 -1	1.65 -2.		
Simodan Shares & Con Singer Barnea Financia			6 -	1 <u>.26</u> +30.	61 2	
				2.67 8.14 + 27.	25 20.	1
			9 -1	290 - 16	<u>41</u> 0.	5
Year		5 340.3	2 -	4.88 + 18	A7 5.	
		90.4	G -	7.88 + 16		
Zion Caram Zion Shares			<b>:</b> 0 -	2.81 +27		
Zitti anges					_	_
	CTA	TE BON	ins.			
	SIA	LE DOL		_		
	4415	ss 436.2		0.30 + 13		.9
Ahreyus State Bonds . Almog Pelaun	309.	9 303.7	76 -	1.99 + 14	97 39	L3
Amayst Government B	onds 395.	97 390. 39 1231	76 .	0.42 + 14	139 5	.4 .7
Analyst Government of Clair Dotan.	1235	33 477.		0.61 + 13	3.54 11	.,,
Clait State Bonds						

	5440 F4	-0,42	+ 14.42	40.4	M
Dikla Marom	6110.54 1661.93	- 0.33	+ 11.63 + 13.29	40.9 19.0	2 0 0 P
245.75 Ducas	245.08 1101.31	- 1.34	. 40 RG	55.6	Qt St
Emda Governeni Bonu	1451.88 1358.88	- 1.36 - 0.28	+ 10.90 + 12.84	33.1 55.6	P
Emda Sela	197.47	+ 0.11	+ 15.39	14.5 96.7	Pi
Geva	406.48 534.79	- 1.69 - 0.47	+ 11.16	238.9	Pi
Hills Pekan	1126.83 2350.67	- 0.20 - 0.71	+ 13.87 + 13.57	57.3 4.6	PI
Ranot Gov't Bonds	6B8.51	- 1.07 - 0.91	+ 12.13	41.3 113.9	. P
Tanot Tapuz	1069.06 564.92	- 1.66	+ 14.72	55.2 65.3	· .P
1674_27	151.72 668.01	- 0.28 + 0.13	+ 15.15 + 12.31	100.6	P
Lanek Shahel 154.42 Lahek Shahel 577.88 Lahek Shahel 577.88 Lahek Shahel 577.89 Meritans Government Bond 150.09 Metars Gov1 Bonds 118.20 Metars Gov1 Bonds 119.53 Mercazal Gov1 Bonds 153.83 Nesus Gov1 Bonds 1525.52 Otzar Gov1 Bonds 1525.12 Pla Sheta 245.33 Pla Sheta 147.77 Pla [srshish 4729.50 Pla Zamld 566.80 Psagot Agach 566.80	148.85 117.29	- 0.65 - 0.53	+ 14.35	11.2	P 85
Meltav Gov1 Bonds	117.43	- 1.66	. 1179	21.4 . 11.0	S
Mercazil Gov1 Bonds 153.53	152.68 1319.92	+0.25	+ 19.85 + 12.29 + 10.97	36.2	Ţ
Otzar Gov1 Bonds	149.54 243.38	- 0.67 - 0.68	+ 13.16	15.6 17.6 282.8	2 2 2
Pia Sheia	145.17	+ 0.01	+ 12.35 + 15.20	183.3	Ž
Pla Zamid	4846.15 556.64	+ 0.27	+ 19.22	81.8 56.7	
Psagot Masia 560 45	427.39 550.54	- 0.82	<b>14.38</b>	116.2 186.0	- 14
200 A 1 A 200	692.04 133.63	- 0.82 - 0.31	+ 11.39	3.1	-
Sigma Gov't Bonds	578.75 736.70	- 1.00 - 1.04	+ 13.29 + 14.97	92.0 197.8	1
Sigma Gov1 Bonds         550.42           Yasra Pekan         748.97           Yevu Pekan         614.93           Ziv         507.26	607.13	- 0.74	+ 15.24	42.1 37.5	
ZN	500.88	- 0.86	+ 14,10	01.0	
	NV BOL	IDS			
COMPA			45.00	75.7	7
Afildm Bonds	328.33 192.81	- 2.09 - 1.23	+ 13.43	11.0	
Afridm Bonds	129.11 277.46	- 0.47 - 1.78	+ 15.44	24.3 100.1	
Analyst Corporate Bonds 282.42	161.46	+ 1.09	+ 14.31	16.3 17.1	
Apex Tsus	132.04 155.56	+ 1.20	1 14 7R	10.6 16.7	
Bloch Hotsteen Burks	160.08 147.18			121	
Ahrayut Bonds	202.58	- 1.4	+ 12.41 + 15.55	3.6 74.1	
Class Zmins	170.12 1010.77	+ 0.0	113.35	50.6	
Ctali Zmiras 1018.34 Dakis Masylan 1018.34 Dakis Maskoret Plus 138.99 Dika Maskoret Plus 435.30 Dika Meimed 511.35	130.90	+1.2	9 13.49	299.4 21.3	
Dikis Meimed	606.6	-0.8	4 + 13.55	. 36.3	
Didda Mirveh 561.38 Didda Mirvear 981.85 Didda Mirvear 981.85 Dovrat Streen Bonda 187.35 Emda Dynamid 1881.51 Emda Halamleh 181.51 Emda Haraara 1120.45 Emda Haraara 97.55	557.01 1967.23	7 -0.0	4 + 17.31	101.7	
Dilda Nigvan	164.8 104.5	3 -2.1		. 54.4	
Emda Dynamic	180.5	5 -02	D + 12.00	·22.4 55.8	
Emda Hamara	1114.4 97.3	6 -1.4 5 +1.4	29 + 14.28	291.0	
Emde Shifei	335.5 4 124.5	2 -0.0	7 + 15.9	19.8 15.9	
Epston Corp. Bonds	7 141.9	15 + 1.0	57 + 15.7	4 138.0	
Epsilon Money Market	3 150.9 0 2016.0	19 - 1J 10 - 0J	84 -	- 15.5	
Excellence Bonds	4 1493 2 132,	86 -1. 12 +1.	74 + 13.3 19 + 14.4	4 11 <i>.4</i> 8 11.0	
Eyal Shotel	0 679.	16 - 1.	01 + 18.5	1 123.2	2
Emda Hasaman 120.48 Emda Hamaria 127.58 Emde Shikell 97.58 Emde Shikell 97.58 Emde Shikell 97.58 Emde Shikell 1336.31 Emda Zuk 336.31 Epsäon Gorp. Bonda 142.07 Epsäon Money Market 142.07 Evergreen Shkoola 151.8 Excellence Bonda 2041.2 Eyal Corporate Bonda 149.8 Eyal Corporate Bonda 132.4 Eyal Shkolel 587.9 Guy 587.9 Hetz Pekan 141.6	9 578	. + 1	B7 + 15.8	3 75.1	
Hefz Pelcan	8 141.5 3 437.5	25 •0. 12 •0	65 + 14.5	44.5	
Ilanot Alon	4 1953. 6 146.	<u>62</u> -0	56 +126	26.6	5
lianot Armon	57 8083.	29 -1	27 + 14.7 60 + 16.7	77 92 77 1143	
1049	54 1043	98 -1	.34 + 14.1	68.4	
Ranot Muvishat	72 103. 27 3990		199 - 184 + 173	83 153	4.
lianot Oren	75 178	1822 - C	20 +14	06 <b>27</b> .	4
itanot Filmon	11 281	.90 -0	1.28 + 12	96 49	3 .
itanot Shahar	84 244	.64 -1	129 + 12 146 + 13	OG 11B.	.7
llanot Shyddia	72 446	.46 -	1,42 + 15.	20 55.	.5 .1
Keshet Pelasi Koor Dollar Index 198	.16 197 .35 151	35 +	0.85 _·	<u> </u>	.0 .
Shak Maden some	97 237	7 <i>8</i> 7 -	1.17 + 12 1.23 + 15	42 822	.9
Lahak Shèldeg. 179 Lahak Yasoo: 179 Melkarit Pelcan. 315 Meltarit Pelcan. 145 Meltav Corp. Conv. Bonda 145 Meltav Money Merket. 115					
	1.75 310	121 -	0.40 +22	32 36	
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds 145	.75 316 .81 14	0.21 - 4.66	0.40 + 22 1.58 + 16 1.36 + 13	33 10	).6 ).1

and a second	
Mercazit Corn. Bonds 444.0. Models Shmara. 108.1 Nesus Corporate Bonda. 180.2 Otzar Shtaffin 127.1 Pla Hallin 1511. Pla Mojoret 1581.1 Pla Oprit 1581.1 Pla Oprit 1581.1 Pla Or 1160. Pla Oprit 1581.2 Pla Shornir 1589. Pla Shornir 1589. Pla Shornir 259. Pla Tusta 231. Pla Tusta 231. Pla Vorma 280. Pasgot Hagian Pais 101. Pagot Hagian Pais 101. Pagot Yetsia 58. Simoden Bonds 123. Simoden Bonds 123. Simoden Interest 1587. Tauct Hen 157. Vasar 251. Zalor Jank Bonds 1537. Zalor Bonds 1533. Zalon Bonds 1533.	9 440.13 -2.59 12.5 10 107.00 -0.08 +10.61 15.4 10 179.89 -1.04 +10.61 15.4
Mercazit Com. Bonds444.0	0 107.00 -0.08
Models Statutal House 180.2	6. 179.89 -1.04 +14.53 65.0
Nesua Corporate Dollars 1274	18 125.71 + 1.17 + 14.55 45.0 19 511.59 + 1.51 + 15.28 417.2
Ota Halifo	99 511.59 + 1.51 15.28 102.7 101.88 + 0.74 173.9
Nonecet	587.86 -0.25 +12.94 173.9
a Oph	01 1090.97 -1.07 +17.91 138.1 41 1090.97 -1.005 +14.42 48.0
a Or	41 1004 48.0 54 278.58 +0.05 +14.42 48.0 56 1335.14 -1.27 +14.84 141.8
la Seguia.	34 278.56 - 1.27 + 14.84 141.8 35 100.35 - 1.12 + 16.78 41.2 38 373.28 - 1.12 + 16.78 41.2 32.6 48 230.25 - 1.54 + 16.54 52.6 48 230.25 - 1.52 + 15.00 65 189.2
ta Shamir.	35 100.35 +18.78 41.2
to Shighin Add	35 100.36 88 573.26 -1.12 +16.78 41.2 48 290.25 -1.54 +16.54 52.6 21 286.38 -1.62 +15.00 6.5
Trus	48 230.25 -1.54 +16.00 6.5
42 TOZUM	21 286.87 + 0.61 - 159.2 10 10 12 + 0.61 - 159.2 87 218.87 + 1.42 + 15.35 753.3
Penning Hanging Plus	12. 101.12 +0.61 87 218.87 + 1.42 + 15.36 758.3
senot Kol Flega	87 21887 +0.86 +14.41 28.4 53 104.65 +0.86 +14.41 28.4 51 571.36 -1.32 +20.30 - 216.1 51 571.36 -1.32 +7.58 4.1
Paggot Tashiumim	51 57136 -1.12 +20.30 - 216.1
Psagot Yetska	58 121.42 -4.31 +7.58 4.1 121.42 -4.31 +7.58 70.0
Smodan Bonos	50 - 136.50 + 0.94 + 13.08 70.0 01 166.18 - 0.86 + 20.95 - 20.5
Samodan salaren	01 166.18 -0.36 +20.35
258	51 571.35 -1.32 +7.58 4.1 58 121.42 4.31 +7.58 70.0 50 196.50 +0.94 +13.08 70.0 101 105.18 -0.96 +20.95 20.5 83 256.51 -0.43 -3.5 43 196.67 -5.60 +8.32 5.8
Zoller Jank Bonds	n 194231 -225 +1249 7.5
Zion Bonds 1953	n2 103.79 -0.17 3.7
Zion Bonds	112 103.73
the transfer of	
FORFI	GN CURRENCY
	25.2
Alldin Foreign	二 <u> </u>
Analyst Europe	- 001 01 01 1450 181
Paris Maneri	8.49 931.21 + 0.11 TA.50 18.1
Dollar	- <u> 53.0</u>
Emda Tovol.	— <u> </u>
Evergreen High Tech	545 200.63 +0.16 +14.70 69.1
tianot Doley	81.8
lianot Huf	39.1
itanot itan \$	
Ranot World	3.23 173.23 -0.34 +15.24 200.1
Lebel Country S	50 50 400 +14.47 98.5
Asidm Foreign. Analyst Europe Caprisal Foreign Dates Emda Tavel. Evergreen High Tech. Isanot Dotes Isanot Norts Isanot Works Isanot Works Intel Pelcan Lahak Cosmos \$	70.53 570.53 + 0.07 + 14.47 98.8 65.8
Lak Kehal	
Lamashida	E E E
Laik Kehzi Lamaehida Maritime Foreign Fund Meitan Foreign Gurrency  Z Morian Petern \$ Onten Fereign Flantible	78.05 276.81 0.08 +13.21 6.1
Metay Foreign Currency	
Moriah Pekan 5	
Orden Foreign Plastolla	·
CICER UNIVERSE	— 135.1
Pin Johns	21.59 119.54 -0.27 + 12.06 108.6
Moriah Pelcan S Orden Foreign Fleedbie Olzar Universe Pia Chul Pia iriber Pia Prime S Pia Terget 6 Psagot Chul Psagot Ciobe S Psagot Metan Rosen Continental Tsaber Pelcan	21.00
Die Terret E	= = = 778
Descrit Chail	··
Percet Girbs S	FM SM = 0.70 +17.83 105.5
Percet Malph	517.99 508.95 -0.70 +17.85 106.5 45.8
Restor Peicen	11.6
Rosen Continental	316.08 310.43 -0.41 + 16.09 18.4
Taabar Pekan	316.08 310.43 -0.41 - 16.00 18.4
	MIXED
	357.59 351.44 -0.84 +17.94 96.1 219.70 218.47 +1.09 +16.23 76.3 - 718.37 74.40 -0.74 +22.28 170.1
Etan Pelan	337.39 331.44 -0.64 + 17.34 10.1 337.39 318.47 -1.09 + 16.23 76.3
Emda Kolelet	219.70 218.47 1194 + 22.28 170.1 716.97 714.40 -0.74 + 22.28 170.1
Goren Pekan	718.37 714.00 -0.74 + 22.25 17.07.00 17.00
Earnot Barak	738.23
Tignot Brosh	7.00 85 7780 57 -2.44 7.0
Hencel Microsi	796.81 2782.57 -249 +22.05 39.1
tignot Te'ena	415.29 1408.18 -0.50 +20.38 136.8
Lehak T20fit	13864 137.65 1.04 19.18 20.1
Eltan Pelam Emda Kolelet Goren Pelam tanot Barak Renot Brosh tienot Nicosi tanot Te'enst Lanek Tzoft Mad Dilda	138357 7968.66 -U96 +24.86 181.8
	8799 7A 18814 A1 (17)
Dig G0/91	701.74 689.44 -238 +34.10 74.1
Paget Mashulovat	8614 - 8614 - S55: +16.62 10.2
Terriz Peran	85.68 Send Side 10.2 10.2 10.2 10.2 10.2 10.2 10.2 10.2
SOURCE METAY LIC - Menage	
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(DATE 30-DEC-97)

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Gold AM for Gold PM for Gold P

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DATA COMMUNICATIONS VIA

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Foreign financial data courtesy of

CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

difficulties the stocks being published are yesterday's listings.

6 MONTHS

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BANKNOTES

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# TASE rises on optimism about budget

### Tel Aviv

Stocks rose for a fourth day yesterday as investors were encouraged by progress on the government's efforts to meet its deadline and pass the 1998 budget by tomorrow. Analysts also mennoned positive sentiment in the market following an agreement by US, Japanese and European financial institutions to help alleviate

South Korea's credit crisis. The Maof Index of 25 stocks gained 2.1 percent to 301.99. The Misblanim Index rose 2% to 288.34. The Tel Aviv Continuous Trading Index rose 2.06% to

Leading stocks up were Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., up 0.2% to NIS 160.5; Supersol Ltd., up 0.9% to 10.01; and Koor Industries Ltd., up 2.4% to 390. Israel's top three banks based on assets also rose: Bank Hapoalim Ltd., up 2.9% to 8.54; Bank

Leumi le Israel Ltd., up 2.1% to 5.92; and Israel Discount Bank Ltd., up to 3.65. Offsetting the gains were Azorim Investment, Development & U Construction Co., down 1.6%

to 38, and Ham-Let Israel Canada Ltd., down 1.4% to 21.5.

The plan to aid South Korea will

ease "fear that Israeli companies are going to be unduly affected by the Korean crisis," said Ira Slomowitz, a trader at Israel Brokerage and Investment. The involvement of the private sector in the South Korean credit crunch "is a precursor to investor confidence."

### Europe

UK stocks rose for a second day as rallies in Asia and the US offset a decline in retail shares, which were hobbled by lingering con-cern poor Christmas sales will mean lower profits. Asian and US stocks climbed after foreign banks agreed to roll over for one month as much as \$15 billion in loans to South Korea, easing concern about the region's economic woes and boosting the prospects for

Britain's exporters. "The great thing is that the hole has been blocked," said Logie Cassells, an investment manager at Capel-Cure Myers Capital Management Ltd. in London, which bas 3 billion pounds (\$4.9b.) in the UK equity market. [Korea] has a base from which they can rebuild."

The benchmark FTSE 100 Index rose 19.9 points, or 0.39%. to 5132.3

Shell Transport & Trading Co.,

**STOCKS** 

Maof 301.99 A 2.1% Dow Jones 7915.97 ▲ 1.6 FTSE 5132.3 A 0.39% Nikkei 15258.74 & 3.27%

HSBC Huldings Plc and other companies that make a lnt of their profits abroad paced the rise. Shell ained 6 pence to 440.5, while HSBC, the parent of Hong Kong Bank Ltd., rose 26p to 1,566. Billiton Plc, the mining company, advanced 5p to 155.

### Asia

Japanese stocks rose, led by banks, after US, Japanese and European financial institutions agreed to help alleviate South Korea's short-term credit crunch, a move that will boost Japanese banks with heavy exposure in the country, traders said.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 483.52 points, or 3.27 percent, to 15,258.74, after hitting a two-anda-half year low Monday. The broader Topix index rose 27.16 points, or 2.37%, to 1178.03. The half-day of trading was the final

session of the year. News that an agreement on helping South Korea is coming together reassured investors and boosted Japanese financial institutions, said Ken Yamamoto, deputy head of Dai-Ichi Securities Co.'s equity division.

The threat of a decline in global stock markets triggered by Asia has receded," said Yamamoto. Investors who had bet on further

declines on banks exposed m South Korea appeared to be buying them back, he said. A group of international financial institutions ended daylong

meetings in New York with a statement supporting "efforts to alleviate Korea's short-term liq-uidity concerns." While the statement fell short of a promising to roll over all of South Korea's short-term debt, investors saw it as a step in the right direction. Elsewhere, the Hang Seng Index

in Hong Kong climbed 2.4%.

(Bloomberg)

### **Wall Street**

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks extended a rally yesterday, lifting the Dow Jones industrial average back toward 8,000 with just one

session left in 1997. The Dow rose 123.56 points - or 1.6 percent - to 7,915.97, padding Monday's 113-point jump and push-

ing this year's gain toward 23%. Broad-market indicators also rose sharply, with the Standard and Poor's 500 index boosting this year's spoils to 31% and the Nasdaq composite index increas-

ing its 1997 gain to 21%. Barring a steep decline today, it will be the first time that the Dow and the S-and-P 500 have posted better-than 20% gains for three straight years. Both measures have more than doubled over that span.

The gains in stocks came despite a weak day in the bond market, where long-term interest rates rose back toward 6% after a report showing that consumer confidence jumped to a 28-year high in December.

While the strength in consumer sentiment might offset a drop in exports to the troubled economies of Asia, analysts remain worried that the robust US job market will force employers to boost wages and prices - as they try to keep up with demand.

# Easing of Korean crisis boosts

amid optimism that Korea's financial crisis may be easing. The dollar was little changed against the yen as concern that the Bank of Japan may sell dollars to prop up the yen offset expectations that Japan's economic weak-

ness will drag its currency lower.
The US currency climbed against the mark as international lenders said they would give Korea more time to pay off its debts, calming concern that the country's financial system may be on the verge of failure and giving US stocks a boost.

"People want to own dollars and are skeptical about owning marks," said Mark Gargano, managing director of foreign exchange at First Union Corp. in Charlotte, North Carolina. The dollar rose to 1.7924 marks against the yen as traders heeded \_\_ ment will "intervene if necessary

The dollar rose against the mark from 1.7895 late in the previous day in New York. It also rose to 129.68 yen from 129.61 yen Monday.

The dollar could rise as high as 1.82 marks early next year, said Ramon Bauza, a director in foreign exchange at Bank Boston. The mark and the Swiss franc,

which bave recently benefited from the perception they are safer than the dullar amid tumbling equities and currencies in Asia, have lost some of their shine as Asian stocks have rebounded, traders said. "The pressure from Asia isn't

around," said Erich Andermatt, a trader at Bank Hofmann AG in Zurich. "I think there's momentum for the dollar to strengthen again today."

The dollar was held back



Dollar 3,5340 A 0.2% Basket 3.7857 ▼ 0.11% Mark 1.9718 v 0.7% Sterling 5.8502 ¥ 1.05%

comments last weekend by Japan's Vice Minister fur International Affairs Eisuke Sakakibara, who said the govern-

on a scale that will surprise the market," to insure the yen won't weaken further against the dollar. Traders saw the remark as a hint the Bank of Japan might sell dollars to keep the yen from extending its 11 percent slide versus the dollar this year. Still, weakness in Japan's economy points in further yen depreciation, traders said. Since November, five Japanese financial institutions have failed. Though the government has unveiled a series of plans to stimulate growth and stabilize the banking system, traders said they see few signs the economy will pick up steam anytime soon.

People with commun sense would think the dollar will rise," said Toshiaki Enomoto, manager for foreign exchange at Sanwa Bank Ltd. in Tokyo. "Anxieties about Japanese financial institu- (Bloomberg)

tions haven't been wiped out. There are few reasons to buy

The yen has been underpinned since banks in Japan and Germany agreed Monday to reschedule loans to South Korea, averting a financial collapse that could have spilled over into Japan, a major lender to Korea. Other European and US financial institutions meeting Monday in New York also agreed to allow Korea more time to pay off debts.

The South Korean won, however, resumed rumbling Monday as Korean companies sought dollars

to pay off foreign currency debt.
The won fell 16.3 percent to
1,590 to the dollar. That burts Japanese exporters who compete with Korea, as a weaker won makes Korean exports cheaper.

# Palladium hitch increases prices

### Precious metals

Palladium rose yesterday as concern grew that supplies of the precious metal from Russia will be delayed in the cuming months. Russia, the warld's largest palladium pruducer, failed to ship any precious metals in the first half of this year because of internal wrangling over which government depart-ment controlled export licenses. The possibility of a delay in next year's Russian federal budget is raising concerns about precious metals shipments.

Spot palladium rose \$7.75 to \$206 an ounce.

Gold slipped on expectations that Asia's slowing economies will reduce US growth, limiting inflation and the need for gold to

Tumbling currencies from Snuth prices. Korea to Indonesia are making Some traders suspect instituthose countries' products cheaper an world markets, limiting US manufacturers from raising prices. Thailand had a trade surplus in November, its third month in a row, an indication that its currency devaluation spurred exports. Spot guld fell \$1 to \$290.15 an nunce.

### Oil

London crude oil prices rose as much as 20 cents yesterday, after falling to their lowest level in 22 months Monday. Prices recovered as some traders opted to buy back contracts, viewing oil as cheap at these levels. Others bought to honor sales commitments made earlier when prices were higher,



Crade Oil \$16.65 ▲ 0.04% CRB 230.3 A 1.39% A Salara College Wall Broken

tional investors will push prices lower still. London brokers said if Brent breaches \$16.43 a barrel it could fall below \$16 a barrel. February Brent crude traded 5

hedge against rising prices. thus benefiting from the drop in cents higher at \$16.65 a barrel.

### **Others**

Zinc rose as Chinese exports of the metal, which more than doubled this year, are expected to drop off in 1998. China's shipments of as much as 700,000 tons of zinc this year, well above forecasts and up from 280,000 tons in 1996, meant the global market m 1997 was close to balance when it was expected to be under-supplied. The world's largest zinc consumer, the US, used about 1.2 million tons in 1996. With prices down about a third from their 1997 highs in July and the unprofitable trades mainly covered, exports are unlikely to be as buoyant in 1998, analysts said. Three-

month zinc last traded up \$2.50 at

Copper rallied after slumping to

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a four-year low Monday on concent that surging interest rates, sliding currencies and curbs on government spending in East Asia, particularly South Knrea, will reduce demand for metal in the region next year. The London Metal Exchange's copper stockpile fell 900 metric tons to 332,725 tons Monday, the exchange said. Threemonth copper rose \$3 to \$1,729 a ton on the LME.

Coffee fell as increasing shipments of coffee from Central American growers boosted US stockpiles. The arrival of new supplies from Central America helped coffee inventories monitored by the Coffee, Sugar & Cocoa Exchange in New York to rise to a two-month high of 99,990 132-pound bags last (Bloomberg)

### US bonds fall as concern over Asia wanes

US bonds fell yesterday, pushing yields to their highest in ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS almost two weeks, as waning concern that South Korea will default on its debi reduced demand for US securities and a report showed Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97) soaring consumer confidence. The euphoria over the flight to

quality in the Treasury market has faded." said Doug Rogers, who helps manage \$300 million in bonds at Heartland Advisors in Milwaukee. Rogers is holding about 7.5 percent of the assets he manages in

cash and looking to make addi-tional purchases if the benchmark 30-year bond rise in about 6% early in the new year. The benchmark 30-year Treasury

bond fell 22/32, or \$6.88 per \$1,000 bond, to 102 3/32, pushing the yield 5 basis points higher to 5.97%. The two-year note's yield rose 3 basis points to 5.71%.

Bonds declined as investors speculated that an agreement among international banks to roll over South Korean debt will rekindle investor interest in the Pacific Rim. That news "is taking some of the steaminess out of our bond market." said Patrick Dimick, Treasury market strategist at UBS Securities.

South Korea's creditors, including US banks J.P. Morgan & Co., Chase Manhattan Corp. and Citicorp, agreed to allow Korean borrowers extra time to repay loans, preventing defaults for now. In addition, the creditors, which met in New York Monday, are trying to



arrange a new loan that could exceed \$10 billion or repackage Korean debt and sell it to investors. US bonds have rallied since October as numbling Asian finan-cial markets pushed international investors to the guaranteed returns of US Treasuries. Signs now of stability in the Pacific Rim -belped by billions in international including International Monetary Fund bailouts for Indonesia, Thailand and Korea - is slowing that "flight to quality" move, traders said. International lenders "have very little alternative" except to help repair Korea's economy, said Joseph Liro, chief economist at CIBC Oppenheimer.

Yields rose further after the Conference Board said consumer confidence unexpectedly surged in December, suggesting the economy may not slow in 1998 as some anticipate. The confidence index rose to 134.5 this month - the highest since 1969 - compared to a revised 128.1 in November. Analysts expected a drop to 126.8.

"Consumers aren't just optimistic, they're ecstatic," said Tom O'Connell, a trader at First Chicago Capital Markets in Chicago.

That's bad for bonds because a robust economy could spur inflation, which eats into the value of fixed-income securities and their principal payments. Many investors have been looking for the US economy to slow, in large part because of dwindling demand for US goods in Asia.

Soaring confidence at home. helped by a booming jobs market, may offset weaker demand from abroad and push consumer prices higher. The consumer price indexrose at an annual pace of 1.8% in the first !! months of the year, the slowest in a decade. (Bloomberg)

### GENERAL SSISTANCE

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# Gross under fire

LONDON (Reuters) - Tottenham's Swiss coach Christian Gross was in danger of becoming just a quirky statistic of English soccer as doubts about his future grew yesterday after just 35 days at the London club. Gross has struggled to lift relegation-threatened Tottenham since he officially took charge on November 25 and the team have suffered hammerings at the hands of London rivals Chelsea and unglamorous

Speculation is mounting in Britain that he may join Brian Clough and Steve Coppell as one of the shortest-serving managers in English soccer

Gross has been linked with the vacant job of Swiss national team coach. His future at Spurs was cast further into doubt on Monday when his fitness coach and friend Fritz Schmid was refused a British work permit.

Tuesday's newspapers offered no relief as Gross came under fire from England international striker Les Ferdinand, who says his injury problens have been worsened by the manager's attitude towards training. Ferdinand claims he was unable to play in the 1-1 draw against

Arsenal last weekend because he was not allowed to rest an injured leg. The shortest reign at an English club was the three days Bill Lambton spent at Scunthorpe United in April 1959.

Steve Coppell quit Manchester City after just 33 days in 1996.

Former Nottingham Forest manager Clough was at Leeds for just 44 days in 1974 before he parted company with the club after a poor start

# Chelsea's hopes fizzle

LONDON (Renters) - Chelsea failed to make ground on Premier League leaders Manchester United when they were beaten 1-0 away by sauggling Southampton on Monday.

A 16th minute goal by Kevin Davies — his 11th of the season proved the difference in a game made difficult by strong winds.

United lost 3-2 to Coventry on Sunday but third-placed Chelsea, who were held to a 1-1 home draw by Wimbledon on Friday, again missed a chance to close in.

They now trail the leaders by seven points. Blackburn are secoud, five points off the pace.

The only goal on Monday came when former England midfielder Carlton Palmer latched on to Jason Dodd's long ball down the right and sent in a low cross. It looked to be defender Frank Sinclair's ball but Davies reacted sharply to reach it first and poke it past Chelsea goalkeeper Ed De Goey.

Southampton looked keener all over the pitch and should have gone further ahead. But Davies and Matthew Oakley shot wide

after springing the shaky Chelsea offside trap.

Chelsea also came close in an open first half when Mark Hughes seized on a mishit Dan Petrescu effort but Oakley was on the line to chest the Welshman's left-foot shot to safety.

The Londoners bad beaten Southampton in the league and League Cup earlier in the season.

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	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
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Boltun	21	4	9	8	19	33	21

# Kallis ton helps S. Africa to draw

MELBOURNE (AP) — A defient century by Jecques Kallis helped South Africa force a draw in the first cricket Test against Australia at the Melbourne

Cricket Ground yesterday.
Set to make 381 to win in a minimum of 120 overs, South Africa survived four sessions to score 273 for seven to avoid defeat on a turning pitch.

Shaun Pollock, unbeaten on 15 and Lance Klusener, six not out, batted out 16 nervous minutes hetween them after South Africa began the last bour on 243 for six. Fast bowler Glenn McGrath trapped Dave Richardson for 11

runs after 47 minutes. Shane Warne spun his leg spinners sharply and dangerously and, backed by the 11,249 speciators. had the visitors struggling for sur-

South Africa owes a great deal to Kallis and then skipper Hansie Cronje, who weathered some anxious moments before and after lunch to put on 123 runs for the fourth wicket.

The pair rescued South Africa from Warne, who made inroads to the batting with the wickets of opener Adam Bacher and Daryll Cullinan in the space of nine balls.

Kallis' chanceless maiden Test couldn't have been better timed. He won the man of the match award for his effort. The highly talented No.3 bad

scored only one half century in his previous eight Test innings. But on a wicket that called for patience, the 22-year showed great maturity in defying Warne in his 279-ball innings that lasted

hours. He resumed the day with Bacher on 40 and hit just six boundaries in all as he batted for just over two sessions to save the game for South Africa.

just three minutes under five

Only Pakistan has batted over four sessions in the fourth innings against captain Mark Taylor's Australians.

On Taylor's captaincy debut, Pakistan handed out a one-wicket defeat in Karachi in 1994-95.

South Africa resumed the day on 79 for one, needing another 302 runs in a minimum of 90 overs to force an unlikely win.

Bacher was brilliantly caught hy Taylor at slip and Warne bowled his nemesis Cullinan for naught. Cullinan lasted just eight deliveries.

Cullinan has now made 31 runs at 4.42 in four Tests in Australia and 153 runs at 12.75 overall against Warne.

Kallis and Cronje 100k South Africa to lunch on 139 for three and the game was still far from

Cronje paced his innings well and reached his half century as Australia struggled for a breakthrough in the post-lunch ses-

Vice captain Steve Waugh, used as the sixth bowler, provided the side with the long-awaited wick-et. Cronje on 70 fell to a leg side trap, flicking a half volley to

Australia first innings (Ricky Ponting 105, Steve Waugh 96, Par mox 4-69) and 257 (Paul Reiffel 79 not out, Mark Taylor 59, Allan Donald 6-59) South Africa first innings 186 (Gary Kirsten 83)

South Africa second innings (overnight 79 for one) G.Kirsten b Reiffel A.Bacher c Taylor b Warne J.Kallis b Reiffel O.Cullinau b Warne H.Cronje c Taylor b S.Wangh B.McMillan c Taylor b Warne S.Pollock out out D.Richardsoo lbw b McGrath Littersener not out Extras (nb-6 b-5 (b-4) Total (for seven wickets, 122 overs) 273

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-88, 3-88, 4-211, 5-229, 6-241, 7-260. Did not bat: P.Symcox, A.Donald. Bowling: McGrath 28-11-57-1, Reiffel 18-8-24-2 (nb-1). Kasprowicz 14-1-45-0, Warne 44-11-97-3 (ob-5), MLWangh 10-0-25-0, S.Waugh 7-2-12-1, G.Blewett 1-0-4-0.

Result: Match drawn Man of the match: Jacques Kallis (South

The second Test will be played in Sydney between January 2-6, with the third and final Test in Adelaide between January 30-February 3.



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# Everything's coming up roses

By JOSH BARR and NICHOLAS J. COTSONIKA

The wait for the Michigan football learn is nearly over. After 49 years, the top-ranked Wolverines need just one more victory to claim their first national championship since 1948.

Michigan (11-0) will get its chance tomorrow when it plays No. 8 Washington State in the Rose Bowl. If the Wolverines falter, the national title will be decided in Friday night's Orange Bowl, in which second-ranked Nebraska plays third-ranked Tennessee. That will be the final game for Comhuskers Coach Tom Osbome, who has announced his retirement, and Volunteers senior quarterback Peyton Manning, assuming Manning's injured right knee allows him to play.

After Tennessee's 30-29 victory over Auhum in the Southeastem

Conference championship game December 6, he was hospitalized with a ruptured bursa sac, and the recovery has been slow. If he can i play, he would be replaced by sophomore Tee Martin.

Among the other notable matchups tomorrow, two of the nation's most renowned coaches meet in the Citrus Bowl in Orlando, when Joe Paterno's Penn State team plays Steve Spurrier's Florida team. North Carolina will play its first game under new coach Carl Torbush when it plays Virginia Tech in the Gator Bowl. In the Sugar Bowl, two teams that had national title aspirations thwarted in their regular season finales will meet when Florida State plays Ohio State.

But the game is the Rose Bowl, in which Michigan and Washington State (10-1) have taken different approaches since arriving in the Los Angeles area last weekend.

Washington State, making its first Rose Bowl appearance since the

1930 season, is practicing at Los Angeles Coliseum, a venue similar in size to the Rose Bowl. The Cougars had been taking it easy until Saturday, when Coach Mike Price said enough was enough. With the game drawing nearer. Price said he will impose a curfew on his players for the rest of their trip.

Michigan, which went to five Rose Bowls in seven seasons from 1986 to 1992, arrived December 19, one week earlier than in those previous trips. Coach Lloyd Carr introduced training-camp-style,

two-a-day practices for the first two days to get the kinks out.

Muny Wolverines are worrying about West Coast Flu — an ailment that supposedly affects players who get too interested in the scenery

and forget about the game. But the early start might be the remedy. The Wolverines have been keeping to themselves and for the most part staying away from local attractions. But a few players are becoming an attraction: During the team's appearance at the annual Beef Bowl at Lawry's in Beverly Hills, nose guard Kyle Young and offensive lineman Paul Pannous each ate seven 16-ounce servings of prime rib before coaches put a halt to the feeding frenzy. On its trip to Lawry's, Washington State's players consumed 520 pounds of

Meanwhile, in Miami, Nebraska and Tennessee will be rooting for Washington State. A loss by Michigan would give the Comhuskers (12-0) an opportunity to close Osborne's 25-year run as coach with a third national title in four seasons. It also would open the door for Tennessee (11-1) to claim its first national title since 1951.

"Playing a team like Nebraska is certainly a great challenge for our team." said Tennessee Coach Phillip Fulnter. "They have been there so many times and have such a long and fine tradition."

(The Washington Post)

### **Colorado State beats** Missouri in Holiday Bowl

SAN DIEGO (AP) - The Colorado State Rams finally got firs Holiday Bowl thing right.

After consecutive losses in the 1994 and '95 games, the No. 18 Rams were back in San Diego and beat the No. 19 Missouri Tigers 35-24 Monday night with big

plays in the 20th Holiday Bowl. raced untouched for a touchdown on a Holiday Bowl-record 85-yard punt return in the third quarter to give the Rams the lead for good. and scored on a 14-yard reverse on the game's first drive.

Carquest Bowl Georgia Tech 35, W Va 30 Joe Hamilton passed and ran for 356 yards and three touchdowns to help Georgia Tech win at Miami's Carquest Bowl, extending the Mountaineers' bowl losing streak to seven games.

Both teams finished the season

The game drew only 28.262 fans, the smallest crowd in the Carquest officials had hoped for 50,000 in 75,192-seat Pro Player

Humanitarian Bowl Cincinnati 35, Utah State 19 Chad Plummer threw for one TD and ran for another as Cincinnati won the inaugural Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho.

# Mays' 'Rodman strategy' fails

Jordan ties consecutive-game double-digit scoring mark in Bulls' 8th-straight win

on, repeatedly fouling a poor freethrow shooter away from the ball might be called "The Bubba Wells Strategy." Of course, Dallas' Don Nelson might be the only coach ever to try it again after Dennis Rodman made the strategy back-

"Nothing gets to Dennis Rodman," Rodman said after going 9-of-12 from the line as part of an 11-point, 27-rebound, eightassist performance that helped the Chicago Bulls defeat the Mavericks 111-105 Monday night. "The only way to get to me is to

take my money."
Michael Jordan, the pre-eminent money player, had 41 points for his NBA record-tying 787th con-secutive double-digit scoring game as the Bulls stretched their winning streak to eight games and handed Dallas its 12th consecutive

No game this season featured a strategy as unique as Nelson's against Chicago.

Wells, a rookie who has played only 45 minutes all season, fouled Rodman six times well away from the ball - three at the end of the second quarter and three more at

the end of the third. "We get beat every night any-way," Nelson said. "Hey, it didn't work, hut I'll do it again. It's prob-ably better than Michael making every shot.
"You don't have to be too smart

to see a guy shooting 39 percent (from the line) ..., and the Bulls scoring 1.2 points per possession, Do the math and it's not close." Bulls coach Phil Jackson said

Nelson told the referees of his plan before the game. Jackson Iold Rodman, "Be prepared to shoot some foul shots,"

and said he had confidence in the Worm's free-throw form. Rodman went 4-for-6 at the end of the second quarter and 5-for-6 at the end of the third. The latter string helped the Bulls turn a onepoint game into an 84-77 lead

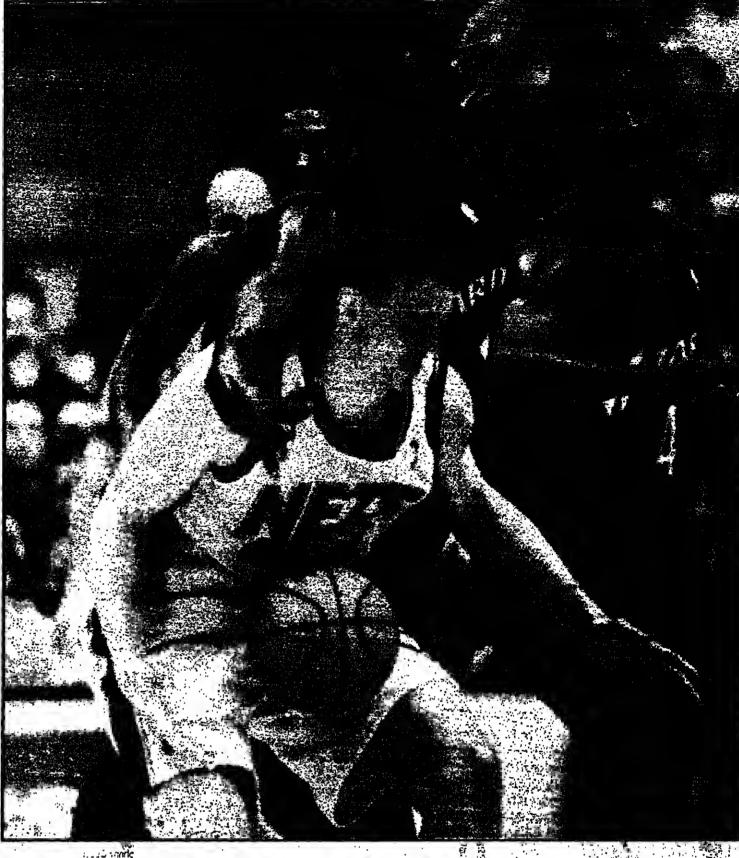
entering the fourth. "I wasn't surprised. (Nelson) has an awful team," said Rodman, who matched his career highs for free throws attempted

and made. "I think Don Nelson is a great coach. I respect him, but that was a crazy, crazy game plan. It's ridiculous to embarrass a player

And Wells was embarrassed. He fouled out in just 3 minutes of playing time, breaking the 41year-old NBA record of 5 minutes set by Dick Farley of the Syracuse Nationals.

to his list as he matched Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's string of doublefigure performances. Jordan last failed to score at least 10 points on March 22, 1986

Hornets 120, Rockets 101 David Wesley scored 21 of his season-high 32 points in the first



ASSAULT AND BATTERY - Nets forward Keith Van Horn is fouled by Washington's Chris Webber in first-period action. New Jersey beat the Wizards 99-91.

quarter, leading a barrage of Mason had 20. three-point shooting as Charlotte

The Homets, second in the NBA in 3-point shooting at 37 percent, connected on 12 of 18 from behind the arc and shot 60 percent

overall. Del Curry came off the bench to add 23 points, going 6-of-8 from 3-point range, while Anthony

Clyde Drexler and Kevin Willis and 22 rebounds as the Nets pre- Atlantic Bristian apiece and Charles Barkley had 12

Nets 99, Wizards 91 Rookie Keith Van Horn had a career-high 32 points and 10 rebounds and host New Jersey avenged its worst loss of the sea-

Jayson Williams added 19 points field goals in the fourth quarter. Chris Webber had 22 points for Washington before fouling out

with 4:19 to play.

Sam Cassell added 19 points for New Jersey before fouling out and Gill had 12. Van Horn shot 10-of-19 from the field and 10-for-10

FITS LIKE A GLOVE - Avalanche goalie Patrick Roy makes a glove save against the Canadiens. Colorado and Montreal drew 1-1.

### Francis's hat-trick lifts Penguins each scored twice to lead Phoenix

Francis scored three omes for his first mulople-goal game of the season as the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the New York Islanders 5-1 on Monday night.
Francis got his 11th hat-trick

and his first in more than two years. He scored his third goal on a power play at 14:45 of the third period. Jaromir lagr and Stu Barnes assisted on all three Devils 3, Sabres 1

Visiting New Jersey scored twice on its first three shots en route to its eighth win in 11 Capitals 4, Blues 2 Adam Oates had a goal and an

assist during a four-goal first period and host Washington beat St. Louis, who played without the injured Brett Hull. Washington, which had managed only eight goals in its last seven games, scored four times on 13 shots against St. Louis goal-

a 1-0 deficit. Lightning 2, Sharks 1
Backup goaltender Derek Wilkinson stopped 29 shots and Dino Ciccarelli scored a rare Tampa Bay power-play goal as the Lightning won at home

tender Grant Fuhr, quickly erasing

Wilkinson, subbing for injured starter Daren Puppa, won for the first time (1-5-1) in his initial appearance this season and 10th of his career.

Stars 2, Red Wings 2 Hosi Detroit and Dallas did nothing to settle who is No. 1 nearing the mid-season mark as they played to a de.

The Stars and Red Wings remained tied atop the Central Division, each with an NHL-best 56 points. It also extended seasonbest unbeaten streaks for both clubs, as Detroit hasn't lost in its last seven and Dallas in its last six.

Avalanche 1, Canadiens 1 Patrick Roy stopped 32 shots as host Colorado tied Montreal for its

12th stalemate of the season. The Avalanche pulled even with the New York Rangers for most ties in the league. Both teams are in position to break the all-time record of 24 in season, held by the 1969-70 Philadelphia Flyers.

Coyotes 5, Flames 3 Bob Corkum and Keith Tkachuk

EASTERN CONFERENCE

to an away win. Corkum's second shorthanded goal of the season at 9:23 of the first period gave Phoenix an early: lead and, although Calgary would battle back to tie the game three

times, the Coyotes never let the

Flames take a lead. WESTERN CONFERENCE

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Minnesota- 14 Naucomer. 16 Dalla- 5 Derner 2  Pacific Division Seattle 23 LA Lakers 22 Phoesia: 17 Portland 17 Sacrassento 11 Golden State 7 LA Chippers 6	14 540 15 345 24 172 25 974 6 793 7 759 9 654 10 530 19 367 20 259 14 200	384 8 13 15 145 5 1296 15 1796
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Minnesota- 14 Naucomer. 16 Dalla- 5 Derner 2  Pacific Division Seattle 23 LA Lakers 22 Phoesia: 17 Portland 17 Sacrassento 11 Golden State 7 LA Chippers 6	14 540 15 345 24 172 25 974 6 793 7 759 9 654 10 530 19 367 20 259 14 200	384 8 13 15 145 5 1296 15 1796
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Minnesota- 14 Naucomer. 16 Dalla- 5 Derner 2  Pacific Division Seattle 23 LA Lakers 22 Phoesia: 17 Portland 17 Sacrassento 11 Golden State 7 LA Chippers 6	14 540 15 345 24 172 25 974 6 793 7 759 9 654 10 530 19 367 20 259 14 200	384 8 13 15 145 5 1296 15 1796
Minnesura 14 Naucomer 16 Dallar 5 Denner 2 Pacific Division Seattle 23 1A takers 22 Phoesis 17 Portland 17 Sacramento 11 Golden State 7	14 540 15 345 24 172 25 974 6 793 7 759 9 654 10 530 19 367 20 259 14 200	384 8 13 15 145 5 1296 15 1796

### CRITICS' CHOICE

### CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

Frieder Bernius leads the israel Chamber Orchestra and his own Stuttgart Chamber Choir in Haydn's Die Schöpfung (The Creation), a most appropriate work to celebrate the new year. Tonight and somorrow at the Tel Aviv Museum, Saturday at the Technion in Haifa, and Sunday in Karmiel (8:30).

Nima Ben-David presents a recital for viola da gamba tonight (8:30) at the Jerusalem Rubin Music Academy (room 221). Admission free. Hanna Zur leads her Ramat Gan Chamber Choir and the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra in masses by Schubert and Dvorak and the Requiem by Puccini. Tonight in Ein Hashofet and Saturday in Givat Brenner (8:30).



Conductor Frieder Bernius leads the Israel Chamber Orchestra and the Stuttgart Chamber Chnir in a concert tonight in Tel Aviv.

### MUSICAL

### HELEN KAYE

After a shaky start because the revolving stage didn't, Fiddler on the Roof, starring Topol in the title role, is spinning into orbit. Ticket demand has been so great that the Haifa run may be extended Tonight at the new Haifa Convention Center and through Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Friday at 9:45 and Saturday at 9 p.m. (Hebrew).

### FILM

1 .....

### ADINA HOFFMAN

\*\*\*\* ULEE'S GOLD - As the title character in Victor Nunez's vividly small and

unhurried film, Peter Fonda is so dry, so stolid, so deliberately blank - his inng-legged gait slowed by a slight limp, his line delivery flat and functional as an ironing board, his gaze deadened by old pain gune dull - that his performance comes precariously close to bad. This first impression may not be fair and in fact the longer nne spends watching Funda's Ulee Jackson go about his quiet business as a nooonsense Florida beekeeper, a Vietnam vet and widower, responsible for looking after bis two granddaughters, the more impressive the actor's work seems. And Nunez does a delicate job of lettiog Ulee's measured manner guide the shape and pace of the film which, despite one or two sentimental missteps, has the spare and carefully structured feel of a well-written oovella. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles, Not recommended for children.)

### Market Committee Committee AROUND THE WORLD VINNING CARDS yesterday's Mifal Hapayis 提體 TREE 99333935553128655**459**5539943 daily chance drawing cleary rain prisoud) clear ploudy clear ploudy clear ploudy cleudy cloudy Bajing Berlin Beston Beston Beston Beston Beston Beston Beston Chicago Copenhagen Famiklant Geneva Helsinid Hong Kong Johung Lisbon London London Los Angeles Madrid Montreal Moston New York Mase Parig Florid Jamain Home San Franciso San Franciso San Franciso Sanchrolom A44 B-17 Camaria -14 Beersheba WINNING NUMBERS r yesterday's daily Lotto drawing 38 46

### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

passenger seat (7) 27 Rest leg, damaged in race

(2,5)
28 Possible harm, going round different Yorkshire town (9)

29 Subdued, we tucked into

### **ACROSS**

I Italian 1000 article (5)

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- 4 But he helps out the rest of the week too (3,6) 9 Lieutenant covered by
- complete protection (7)
  11 Relief from soldiers' malice
- (7) 12 Keep left in brick-trans-
- porter (4)
  13 Jack or King East received
  —not this card though? (5) 14 Girl is to finish about one (4) 17 Boss's assistant, commonly a girl, an African high-flier
- 19 Characters from Magdalen scorn such a gossip (13)
- 21 Family keeps money in tin
- 22 Seize a point, making a

complaint (5)

### DOWN

fish (5)

building (4)

- 1 How fast we run to pillar-box? (9) 2 Woman will overlook bill
- for varnish (7) 3 Opposed to contents of Asian Times (4)
- 5 Child's room is not even somewhere to learn in the winter (7.6) . 6 Flower came up (4)
- 23 Pub is to north of farm 7Stooped to dig-need 26 Tablet one takes on 8 Make submission for grant (5)
  - 10 Thoroughly associating cause with development (4,3,6)
  - 15 There's oothing of the animal in him (5) 16 Guide I brought in to
  - conspiracy (5) 18 Poor road, so ran from the plant (6,3)
  - 19 Red clarets drunk (7) 20 City's light interrupted by gas explosion (7)
  - 21 Skip to take exercise in vehicle (5)
  - 24 A substitute for sin (4) 25 Almost obstruct united group of countries (4)

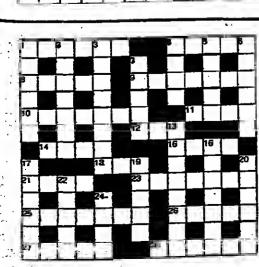
### SOLUTIONS

MISTAKEN UPBEAT
MISTAKEN UPBEA

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Excel, 4 Ascate, 8 Remorse, 10 Dogma, 11 Nick, 12 Suarise, 13 Tie, 14 Puma, 16 Echo, 18 Air, 20 Chaotic, 21 Loot, 24 Image, 25 Traitor, 25 Greasy, 27 Giddy.

DOWN: 1 Errand, 2 Comic, 3 Lure, 5 Endeage, 5 Arguish, 7 France, 8

5 Endanger, 6 Anguish, 7 Eraser, 8 Verse, 13 Tactless, 15 Unaware, 17 Acting, 18 Acute, 19 Stormy, 22 Opted, 23 Fang.



### QUICK CROSSWORD

**ACROSS** 1 Easy gallop (6) 4 Fruit (5) 8 Concur (5) 9 Contempt (7) 10 Contradict (7) 11 Ancient 'you' (4) 12 Fish (3) 14 Necessity (4) 15 Ah mel (4) 18 Dine (3) 21 In case (4) 23 Withdraw (7)

26 German river (5)

27 Lazative '5)

28 Agreement (3)

DOWN 1 Luck (6) 2 Care for (7) 3 Close of the day 4 Finest (4)

5 Arrive at (5)

6 Pulled hard (6) 7 Worship (5) 13 Lights (8) 16 Anthropoid (7) 17 Gladden ibi 19 Test (5) 25 Forgetfulness (7)

20 Walkway (6) 22 Practical wisdom 24 Continent A)

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:45 Good Morning

**■ EDUCATIONAL TV** 8:00 Dog Lovers' Channel - Hanukka program for animal lovers 10:00 Palooka 11:00 Aladdin and the

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

Magic Lamp 11:30 Hanukka Studio

15:30 Super Ber 16:30 Super Ben 15:35 The Pink Panther 16:00 The Mask 16:30 Boy Meets World 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 Zap 18:15 News in English

Going? 18:55 Ramadan 19:00 News HEBBEW 19:30 News flash 19:31 Hebrew Songs 20:00 News 20:45 A Moment in Life 20:50 Conference Call 21:30 Barbara Walters

23:30 News CHANNEL 2 (22)

6:15 Today's programs 6:30 Rupert Bear 7:00 Coffee with Tel-Ad 9:00 Ruby 10:00 Mommy Marke 11:30 Empty Nest 12:00 Brotherly Love: 12:30 Brother 12:30 Reboot 13:00 The Adventures of the Bush Patrol 13:30 Junior News

14:00 Home and Away 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 Timon and Pumbaa: Quack Pack 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 16:50 Different Driving 17:00 Five with Rafi

Reshef 17:30 Sport TV 18:00 Port Charles 19:05 Like Grown-Ups 20:00 News 20:30 Ramat Aviv 21:15 Hartzufim

21:45 Gov Night 22:50 Absolute Justice (Hebrew) — a lough crim-inal investigator discovers he was adopted and is reunited with his biological parents. With Amon Tzadok and Ofra Haza 00:50 Soap 1:15 Red Sea Jazz 15 On the Edge of

E JOFFDANTV (31) 14:00 Fick Rotal 14:10 Johnny Quest 15:00 Art Box 15:30 The Finder 15:40 Munsters Today 16:00 Border Town 16:30 Neighbors 17:00 Secret de Famille 17:30 Des Chiffres et Des Lettres 16:00 Ushuaia 19:00 Le Journal

10 22:30 Seinfeld 23:00 Ricki Lake 23:45 Silk Statkings 00:30 Hart to Hart

19:15 E-M6

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE Night Falls On Manhattan 7.30 · Kong 9:30 G.G. Gill. Jerusalem Mail (Malha) • 6788448 Tomorrow Never Dies-G.J. Jane 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 · Mia 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:15, 9:45 · Conspiracy Theory 4:30, 7:15, 10 · Murder at 1600 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 · L.A. Confidential 4:30, 7:15, 10 · 187 7:15, 10 · The Game 7:15, 10 · Bean 11 a.m., 1, 3 · Father's Day-Fire Down Below 11 a.m., 1, 3 · Father's Day-Fire Down Below 11 a.m., 1, 30 · The Adventures of Pinocchio (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 1, 3 · 4:15 JERUSALEM THEATER \* 5610011 Ulee's Gold 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 \* 6792799 Credit Card Reservations \* 6794477 Rav-Mecher Buikting, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Full Monty-Assignment 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 · Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 · George of the Jungle-Double Team-Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 · Morey Double Team-Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 9:45 · My Best Friend's Wedding 7:15, 9:45 · Lady and the Tramp 1:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 · My Best Friend's Wedding 7:15, 9:45 · Lady and the Tramp 1:30 a.m., 4:45 · MADAR \* 5518:188 Brassed Off 2, 6

7:15, 9:45 - Lady and the Tramp 11:30 a.m. 4:45 SMADAR = 5618168 Brassed Off 2, 6

Fever Pitch 4, 8 • Microcosmos 12:30 • Mr.

19:35 High-tech Culture 20:00 Step By Step 20:30 Challenges 21:10 Kung Fu iii 22:00 News in English 22:30 Land's End 23:15 American Gothic ■ MEDDLE EAST TV

7:00 TV Shop 14:30 Body Sectric 15:00 Basic Training 15:30 The 700 Club 16:00 Larry King 17:00 Gerbert 17:23 Creation Station 17:45 Mort and Phil Have Kids 18:35 Saved by the Bell 19:00 Showbiz

19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic) 20:00 Christmas Special 20:50 Movie: White Christmas 22:50 Arabic Music

**ARABIC PROGRAMS** 18:30 Where Are we

special 22:25 Dark Skies 23:10 Bach's 20:00 News 20:45 Scent of Mint 22:45 The Detectives 23:15 Entertainment Brandenburg Concerto

■ ETV 2 (23)

last episode 16:30 Israeli pop music 17:00 Bobby 17:30 My Dear Brother 18:00 Dies Moi Tout 18:30 Tastes 19:00 Going Far - Bali, 19:30 Vis à Vis - New

Year special 20:30 Zombit 21:00 The New 20th Century – on political 22:00 On Second

Thought 23:00 The Pallisers # CHANNEL 3

with Guy Pines (rpt) 7:30 David Bowie Special 8:00 Sunset Beach 9:00 One Life to Live 9:45 The Young and the Restless (mt) 10:30 Days of Our Liver 11:15 Duice Ana (rpt) 12:00 Love Rost 12:45 Hart to Hart

17:15 One ( He to ( No 18:30 Local Broadcas 9:00. The Young and 19:40 Beverly Hills 90210

20:25 Seeing Stars 20:50 Melrose Place 21:35 Newsradio 22:00 Yair Lapid Live at

17:45 Lois and Clark 18:30 The Arena 19:00 Pink Panther and 19:30 Family Matters 20:05 Roseanne 20:20 Married with Children 20:55 Helen and the Boys 21:25 Beverly Hills

M SECOND SHOWING (6)

MI MOVIE CHANNEL

sexual harassment

18:00 Gay Purr-ee (1962) - animated me

■ ITV 3 (33)

Broadcasts begin after contage of Newsol siting ends 16:00 Cartoons 18:30 Amores 17:30 From Day to Day 18:00 The Tyrant 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Telekessef

15:30 Echo Point 16:00 The Champion -

7:00 Good Evening

13:30 John Larroquette 14:00 Sunset Beach 14:50 Days of Our Lives 15:40 Ricki Lake 16:30 Dulce Ana

11:30 Hostile Advances (1996) – an accountant sues a co-worker for

19:30

20:00

20:30

21:00

21:30

22:00

22:30

23:00

News flast

Hebrew Songs

News

Dark Skie

(1962) – animated misad ventures of cats in Paris 17:25 The Piano Lesson (1995) – an adaptation of August Wilson's Pulitzer prize-

growing up in 194us Queens. With Mia Farrow, Seth Green and Julie Kavner 22:00 Broadway Danny Rose (1984) - pathet-ic manager tries to help over-the-hill vaudaville row and Nick Apollo

23:30 Anomer Wornan (1988) – Woody Allen drama about a woman who has always shielded herself from errofions. With Gena Rowlands, Mi Ferrow, Gene Hackman 00:50 The Soft Kill (1994) – a prieste detect

(1994) — a private deterive is suspected of killing CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 7:30 Pink Panther and Sons 7:55 Ladybugs 8:05 Arthur 8:30 Care Bears 9:00 Heathofil 9:30 Ninja Turtles 9:50 Animaniacs

9:50 Animariacs
10:05 Beetleborgs
10:35 Space Strikers
10:55 Hanulda on the
Children's Channel
11:10 The Secret
World of Alex
11:45 Nick Exces 11:45 Nick Freno 12:15 Lois and Clark 13:00 The Arena 13:30 Ladybugs

13:40 Arthur 13:40 Arthur 14:00 Care Bears Family 14:30 Healthclifi 15:00 Ninja Turtles 15:23 Animaniacs 15:35 Beetleborgs 16:05 Space Strikers 16:25 Hanulda on the Children's Channel 16:40 The Secret 16:40 The Secret World of Alex (rot) 17:15 Nick Freno

90210

secual harassment
13:00 Dogmatic (1996)
— comedy about an
advertising executive
who tries to win a big
dog-lood account
14:30 The Westing
Game (1997) — two
yourths rise to a challenge left by a millionaire

Wilson's Pulitzer prize-winning play about e 1930s black family and their heirloom piano. 19:05 Hard Promises (1991) – e man who was away from home for meny years is astonished to receive an invitation to his wife's wedding. With Sissy Spacek and William Petersen 20:35 Radio Days (1987) – Woody Allen's reminiscence about onwing up in 1940s

(French, 1963) – early masterpiece by Jean-Luc Goddard. A young woman leaves her hus-band to become an actress and is eventual ly drawn into prostitu-tion. With Anna Karina and Saddy Rebbot 23:20 Angel on My Shoulder (1946, 101 Forte 23:30 Another Woman mins.) - comic fantasy about a convicted murder who is sent to earth by the devil as e respected judge. With Paul Muni and Anne

**■ CHANNEL 8** 6:00 Open University 8:05 Imperfect Journey 9:30 Ultrascience: Martian Mission (rpt) 9:55 The Nutcracker 11:35 The Making of Der Prinz von Hamburg 12:35 Elephant Men 13:30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 13:55 Wonders of

14:20 Andrew: Eight Weeks (rpt) 15:30 Kumart The God Child (rpt) 16:15 Rediscovery of Cousteau (rpt) 17:00 Open University 19:05 Hippos Talk 20:10 Mysteries, Martic and Miracles 20:30 Wonders of

Weather: Killer Weather 21:00 Lama Child 22:55 Rediscovery of Cousteau: Madagasca 23:45 Open University

MINBC EUROPE (19/10)6:00 Executive Litestyles 6:30 The Ticket 7:00 VIP 7:30 NBC Nightly News 8-00 MSNBC News 10:00 European

Squawk Box 11:00 European Money 15:30 CNBC US Squawk Box 16:30 Executive Lifestyles 17:00 Art and Practice of Gardening 17:30 Awesom

Married Stars: Helen Hun **fonders** Radio Day Place Beverly Hills 90210 My Life to Hediscovery of Cousteau Yair Lapid Live at 10 Danny Rose

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TIME

**经验证证据** 法配款的 新光光

Beverly Hills 90210

PRIME

Rama1 Av Gimmel

Gov Night - with Gidl Gov

Absoiute

ocan, Through Their CHANNEL 5 Mexican, T Eyes 20:00 VIP 6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:30 Volleybalt Israel 20:30 The Ticket 21:00 Datalin e 22:00 Andersen V 16:30 Volleyoart Israel vs. Bosnia 18:30 Handball 19:30 Sports Portraits Muhammad Ali and Michael Jackson 20:00 NBA: Orlando vs. New York 21:45 European Championship of Golf 21:30 NBC Super Sports 23:00 Tonight Show 00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien 1:00 Later 1:30 NBC Nightly News

Ricki Lak

■ STAR PLUS (18/15)

6:00 Hindi programs 7:00 Oprah Winfrey 8:00 El Uncut 8:30 Mind Your Language 9.00 Nine to Five 9.30 World's Funniest Cornedy Duos 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara

12:00 Crystal Maze 13:00 Wonder Years 13:30 Small Wonder 14:00 Hindi orogra 17:30 Star News 18:00 'Allo 'Allo 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbar 21:00 Star News 21:30 LA. Law 22:30 Due South

23:30 Vegas 00:30 Oprah Winfrey 1:30 21 Jump Street ■ BBC WORLD

News on the hour 6:30 World Review '97 7:30 Hard Talk (rpt) 8:00 The World Today 9:30 Classic Adventure 10:30 World Review '97 11:30 Hard Talk (rpt) 12:30 Film '97 (rpt) 13:00 The World Today 14:30 Wild World: Riddle of the Sands 15:00 Newsdesk &

Business Report 15:30 The World 16:30 Clothes Show 17:30 Hard Talk 18:30 World Review '97 19:30 Holiday (not) 20:00 The World Today 21:30 Hard Talk (rpt) 22:00 Europe Direct 23:30 Top Gear (rpt)

Sport

vs. New York (rpt)

**EUROSPORT** 8:30 Soccer Euro 10:00 Ski Jumping 12:00 Exhibition Tennis 13:45 Smash Tennis 14:00 Acrobatics -1997 World

Soccer 23:00 NBA: Orlando

Chempionships
15:00 Dancing
16:30 Ski Jumping –
17:30 Figure Sketing
20:00 Bowling
21:00 World's Strongest Man 22:00 Heavyweight Boxing 23:00 Fitness 1997 00:00 Bloopers 00:20 Fun Sports

1:00 Motorcycling STAR SPORTS (unconfirmed)

6:00 1997 Omega 7:00 Cricket - India vs. West Indies 12:00 Australian 13:00 Adelaide International Home Trials 14:00 Ryder Cup Golf 16:00 Whitbread Boating 16:30 Motorsports

17:30 Cricket Classics 18:30 Tiger Woods 19:30 Formula One Boat Racing 20:00 Motor Racing -UAE Desert Flace 22:00 Squash -Mahindra International 00:00 Australian 1:00 Whitbread

Boating

**WOICE OF MUSIC** 8:05 Smetane: from Ma Vlast 7:07 Mozart Sonata for

7:07 Mozart Soneta for Two Pianos in D; Schubert: Divertissement on a Hungarian Theme for Piano Four Hands 8:05 Spohr: Piano Trio; Respight: Ancient Airs and Dances 9:05 Liszt: Piano Sonata in B; Schubert: Fantasy for Violin and Piano; Mozart; Bassoon Concerto; Reethoven: Piano

Reethoven: Plano Concerto no 3; Nie Symphony no 5; Gershwin: An American in Paris 12:00 Light Classical – Respight, Verdi, Saint-Saens, Offenbach and Waldteufel 13:00 Artist of the Week - Sergiu Celibidache, cond. and

14:06 Encore -Women Composers 16:00 Prokoliev: Peter and the Wolf, Liszt: Hungarian Rhapsodies, Radetsky March: Mendelssohn: from

Gounod: Chant de Printemps; Brahms: Hom Trio op 40; Debussy: Petite Suite; Debussy: Beau Soir; Fauré: Soir; Bruch; Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and 20:05 Britten; Russian

Funeral Music; Glazunov: Quartet op 35, Prokofiev: Violin Concerto no 1; Mussorgsky: Pictures at an Exhibition ; 23:00 Golden Generation

 young Isaac Stern:
 Beethoven: Sonata no 7;
 Wienlawsky: Concerto no 2; Bizet/Waxmart; "Cempen" Fantasy; Rimsky-Korsakov: Flight

MOVIES 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45 PANORAMA =8382020 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:45 PANORAMA #8382020
Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Game 7, 9:30 • All Babe 11 a.m., 4:30 • GL Jane 10, 7, 9:30 • Charlie and Louise 11 a.m., 4:30 • RAV-CHEN #8500056
Assignment 7, 9:30 • Money Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 4:45, 7, 9:30 • Money Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7, 9:30 • Nothing To Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7, 9:30 • Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 1:15, 4:45, 7 • My Best Friend's Wedding 7, 9:30 • Hercules (Hebrew disloque) • George of the Jungle 11 a.m., 1, 5 RAV-GAT 1-2 \*\* 8674311 Allien Resurrection 4:15, 7, 9:30 • Pace/Off 4:45, 7. am., 1, 5 RAV-GAT 1-2 = 8674311 Allen Resurrection 4:15, 7, 9:30 - Race/OH 4:45, 7, 9:30 RAV-MIOR 1-7 = 8416898 Nothing to Lose 11 am., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:15, 9:30 - The Full Monty 7, 9:30 - Affice Express 9:30 - Money Talks 11 am., 1:15, 5, 7:15, 9:30 - Assignment 7, 9:30 - Affice Resurrection 7, 9:30 - Race/OH 9:30 - George of the Jungle 11 am., 1, 3, 5 - Lady and the Tramp 11 am., 1, 3, 5 - Mortal Kombat 2:11 am., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:15 - Home Alone 3:11 am., 1, 3, 5 RAV-OR 1-3 = 8246553 The Full Monty 9:30 - Shall We Dance 7, 9:30 - Affice Express 9:30 - Home Alone 3:11 am., 1:5, 7 - Lady and the Tramp 11 am., 1, 5 - The Full Monty 7 - Men in Black 11 am., 1:55, 7 - Lady and the Tramp 11 am., 1:55, 4:45 AFULA RAV CHEN = 6424047 Tomorrow Never Dies 11 am., 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 - Affice 11 am., 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 - Affice

a.m., 5 NETANYA G.G. GIL 1-5 = 8628452 Tomorrow Never

Dies 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • 187 7:30, 10 • Double Teem 11:30 a.m., 5 • G.I. Jane 5, 7:30, 10 • Mia 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • The Game 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Bean-All Baba (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m. RAV CHEN = 8618570

4:45, 7:15, 10 - Bean-Ali Baba (Hebrew dialogue) 11:30 a.m. RAV CHEN \* 8618570 Money Talks-Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Nothing To Lose 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 9:45 - The Rull Monty 7:30, 9:45 - Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 / 3:30

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL \* 9317374 Tomorrow Never Dies 5, 7:30, 10 - Assignment 5, 7:30, 10 - Mailen Resurrection 10 SIRKIN \* 9087989 The Game 7:15, 10 - My Best Friend's Wedding 10 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30 - Mis 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Money Talks 5, 7:30, 10 - Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30 - Montal Kombat 2-Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 - 6:G.J. Jane-187 7:30, 10 - Assignment 7:30, 10 - Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 3, 5, 7:30 - Money Talks 5, 7:30, 10 - Assignment 7:30, 10 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 3, 5, 7:30 - Money Talks 5, 7:30, 10 - George of the Jumple 11 a.m., 3, 5 - Fly Away Home 11 a.m., 3 - Aluia Express 10 - Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Nothing To Lose 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Aluia Express 7:30, 9:45 - The Full Monty 7:30, 9:45 - Aluia Express 7:30, 9:45 - The Full Monty 7:30, 9:45 - Home Alone 311 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5. Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 FAV-

1, 3, 5:15 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 - RAV-OASIS 1-3 = 6730897 Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 5, 7:15, 9:45 - Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Pace/Ott 7:15, 9:45 - George of the Jungle-Hercules (Hebrew dialogue) 11

7:30, 9:45 • Pace/Ott 7:15, 9:45 • George of the Jungle-Hercules (Hebrew dialogue) 11 a.m., 5
RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ≈ 5491979 Afuta Express 8, 10 • Men in Black 8
REHOWOT
CHEN ≈ 9362864 Usee's Gold 7:30, 9:45 • The Game 7:15, 9:45 • Paver Pitch 7:15, 9:30 • Brassed Off 7:30, 9:45 RAV MOR ≈ 9493595 Pace/Ott 9:45 • Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5
• The Full Monty ∞ Assignment 7:30, 9:45 • Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45 • My Best Friend's Wedding 9:45 • Money Talks 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30 • Mortal Kombat 2:11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30 • Mortal Kombat 2:11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15 • Home Alone 3:11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30
RISHON LEZION
GIL 1-3 = 9500785 The Game 7:15, 10 • Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • Bean 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • Bean 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Game 7:15, 10 • Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 RISHON LEZION CHEN ≈ 9670504 Money Talks∞The Full Monty 7:30, 9:45 • Assignment 7:30, 9:45 • Rocerom 9:45 • Mortal Kombat 2:11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 • Home Alone 3:11 a.m., 1, 3, 5 • Home Alone 3:11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Nothing To Lose 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 · Gleorye of the Jungle-Lady and the Tramp (Habrew dialogue) 1:30 a.m., 5 • Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • The Adventures of Pinocchio (Hebrew dialogue) 1:30 a.m., 5 • Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 All ames are p.m. unless otherwise Indicated.

Jane 5, 7:30, 10 - Mia 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 - All Baba (Habrew dialogus) ∞Double Team 11:30 a.m. RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ∞6235278 Money Talks 7:30, 9:45 - Allen Resurrection 9:45 - Nothing To Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Mortal Kombat 2:11 a.m., 1:5, 5 - Home Alone 3:11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1:15

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7:30, 10 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 - The Game
10 - Money Talks 6:30, 8, 10 - Lady and the
Tramp 11 a.m., 5 - Bean 11 a.m. - Fever Pitch
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COLONY =6902696 The Pull Monty-Afula Express 6, 6, 10 HOLIDAY = 9544044 The Geme 10 - Lady and the Tramp (Hebrew dialogue) 5:30 STAR = 9589068 Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 1:15, 5:30, 7:45 - Money Talits 7:45, 10 - Mortel Kombat 2 11 a.m., 1:15, 5:15 - One Night Stand 10 - Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 7:30, 10 - HOD HASHARON
GIL = 7408591 Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - The Game 7:15, 10 - Mortel Kombat 2--Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 - Money Talits 5, 7:30, 10 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1:30 - Assignment 7:30, 10

130, 5 - Money Talks 5, 730, 10 - Lady and the Tramp 11 a.m., 1:30 - Assignment 7:30, 10 KARMEL
CINEMA #9882521 One Night Stand-Assignment 7:15, 9:30 - Alien Resurrection 9:30 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 5, 7:15 - Lady and the Tramp-Mortal Kombet 2 11 a.m., 5 KFAR SAVA G.G. GIL #7677370 Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - Mortal Kombet 2 2 14 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - Mortal Kombet 2 14 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - Mortal Kombet 2 1 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - George of the Jungle 11 a.m., 1:3, 5, 7:30, 10 - George of the Jungle 11 a.m., 1:3, KIRVAT BIALIK (21 - 800-224-247 G.L.)

Morty 5, 7:30, 10 - George of the Jungle 11 a.m., 1:30, 7, 9:30 - Morey Talks 11:30 a.m., 1:30 - Morey Talks 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 7, 9:30 - Mortal Kombet 2 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 7, 9:30 - Mortal Kombet 2 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 7, 9:30 - Mortal Kombet 2 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 7, 9:30 - Assignment 1:30 a.m., 1:30 a.m.,

the Munich Phil. Schubert: Symphony no 9 the "Great"

18:00 Faure: Sicilienne; Seminade: Noctume;

18:00 Time and Again

19:00 National

a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 • Laby and the trainp in a.m., 1:5 EILAT CINEMA ≠6373178 Money Talks 5, 7:30, 10 • Assignment 7:30, 10 • Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 5 • Allich Resumection 10 Gil. ≠6340182 The Game 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Bean 11 a.m., 1:30 • 187 7:30, 10 • Father's Day 11 a.m., 1:30, 5 • Tomorrow Never Dies 11 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10

Dies 11 a.m., 4-45, 7:15, 9:30 - Alien Resurrection 9:30 - Assignment 7:15, 9:30 -Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 5, 7:15 - Mortal Kombat 2 11 a.m., 5

ARAD STAR #9950904 Assignment 5, 7:30, 10 - G.J. Jane 7:30, 10 - 187 7:30, 10 - Lady and the Tramp -- Charlie and Louise 11:30 a.m., 5 - Kazaam 11:30 a.m., ARIEL

the Tramp -Charlie and Louise 11:30 a.m., 5

Kazaam 11:20 a.m.
ARIEL
Lady and the Tramp 8 - Face/Off 9

ASPIDOD
G.G. Gill. ± 8647202 G.I. Jane = 187 - Murder at 1800 5, 7:30, 10 - Tomorrow Never Dies 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 - The Game 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Bean = Double Team 11:30 a.m. - The Adventures of Pinocchio (Hebraw dialogue) - Father's Day 11:30 a.m. (Pi #8568073 Fire Down Balow 5, 7:30, 10 - L.A. Confidential - Conspiracy Theory 4:45, 7:15, 10 RAV CHEN #8681120 Money Talks 7:30, 9:45 - Mortal Kombet 2 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 - Northing to Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 - Northing to Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 - Northing to Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30 - Northing to Lose 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Alien Resurrection 9:46 - The Full Monty 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Lady and the Tramp Caorge of the Jungle 11 a.m., 1:15, 5

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G.G. Gill. ± 6729977 G.L. Jane = 187 - Murder at 1800 5, 7:30, 10 - Tomorrow Never Dies 11:30 a.m. - Pather's Day = The Adventures of Pinocchio (Hebraw dialogue) 11:30 a.m. RAV CHEN #6711221 Affer Resurrection 7:30, 9:45 - Afula Express 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 1:15, 5 - Mortal Kombet 2 11 a.m., 1:15, 5 - 7:30, 9:45 - Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Home Alone 3 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Morey Talks 7:30, 9:45 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Assignment 7:30, 9:45 - Morey Talks 11 a.m., 1:15, 7:30, 9:45 - Mor

7:15, 9:45 - Lady and the Tramp 11:30 a.m., 4:45 SMADAR \* 5618168 Brassed Off 2, 6 Fever Pitch 4, 8 - Microcosmos 12:30 - Mr. Baum 10 TEL AVIV GAT \*\*6967888 My Best Friend's Wedding 10, 12 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 \*\*5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoti St. Mis 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 5, 7:30, 10 - L.A. Confidential 4:45, 7:15, 10 - Tomorrow Never Diese-Bean \*\*All Babe 11 a.m., 1:30 - Munder at 1600\*\* The Peacemaker 5, 7:30, 10 LEV \*\*528288 Fever Pitch 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - Mr. Baum 11:45 a.m., 3:45, 5:30, 7:45, 10 - Use's Gold 2:30, 5, 7:45, 10 - Career Girls 11:45 a.m., 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 - Microcosmos 11:30 a.m., 2 - Secrets and Lies 5 LEV AVIV Brassed Off 11:15 a.m., 2:30, 5:30, Validing and Talking 2:15, 5:15, 7:45, 9:45 - Career Girls 11:45 a.m., 5, 8, 9:45 - Fever Pitch 11:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The West 1:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 9:45 - The Fifth Element 1:30 a.m., 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:30, 5:

# SPORTS

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Sports Editors Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

### 'I can,' says Nike

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) -"Just Do It" just isn't doing it for Nike anymore. On New Year's Day, the world's largest athletic shoe manufacturer will introduce a new slogan: "I Can." Even though "Just Do It" isn't being abandoned entirely, the change is seen as a big gamble for a company whose advertising consistently ranks among the most popular and effective in the nation.

But Nike's sales momentum has waned. Fashion trends have moved away from athletic shoes to a more traditional casual look.

And professional sports — to which Nike is inextricably linked - has been shaken this year by a series of criminal assaults, gambling scandals and cases of substance abuse...

The negativism has included persistent criticism of the company's use of cheap. Third World labor to make Nike products.

### New Year's eve race to draw thousands

SAO PAULO (AP) — Some 10.000 athletes from around the world will take to the streets of South America's biggest city on New Year's eve to compete in the traditional year-end St. Silvester road race.

At least 10,000 athletes about 8,000 men and 2,000 women - from 15 countries will run in the 15-kilometer (9.3 mile) race today along wide, skyscraper-lined avenues and through the narrow, twisting streets of downtown Sao Paulo.

Competing for a top prize of \$10,000, they will replace the cars, trucks and buses that normally clog and pollute this city of 10 million.

This year's field includes about 300 foreign athletes including the Kenyan athlete Paul Tergat, world record holder for the 10,000 meters.

# East beats West in Eurostars contest

By ORI LEWIS

The East team beat the West 129-107 in a blaze of color and fanfare at the FIBA Eurostars basketball extravaganza in Tel Aviv yesterday. The event, which FIBA, international basketball's governing body, inaugurated last year and has modeled on the NBA All-Star game, is intended to highlight the European game.

Although there was no Michael Jordan or Shaquille O'Neal at Yad Eliahu, the atmosphere was no less electric, as the cream of European baskeiball wowed the Tel Aviv fans. In an evening typical of some of the great encoun-

ters seen at Yad Eliahu in previ-ous years, the crowd, with their basketball savvy in evidence. showed their appreciation to all the players.

The event opened with a dancing display by some 350 young-sters, followed by a brief pyrotechnics display and the introduction of both teams. While in the past, the Yad Eliahu cheers have been reserved only for the players of Maccabi Tel Aviv, last night the 10,000 spectators were generous in their applause 10 both sides. Apart from the show and promotional element, the game was of

Maccabi Tel Aviv had three rep-

resentatives on the East squad: Rashard Griffith, Oded Katash and Nadav Henefeld.

The two teams kept level until 3:30 in the first quarter when East coach Dusan Ivkovic replaced Dino Radja and Arturas Kamishovas with Henefeld and Griffith, at which point the East pulled away to a 41-36 first-quarter lead. By the half, the lead had grown to 73-53, with Karnishovas leading the way with 17 points. For the West, three players led the halfway stage with eight points: Pedrag Danilovic, Aleksandar Djorjevic and Wendell Alexis.

The game became a more sub-

dued affair in the second half. By the third quarter, the East bad a 100-86 lead and in the final period, it was clear that the West could not catch up, despite some very accurate shooting from

Djorjevic. Arturas Karnishovas was named the game's MVP; and Djorjevic won the three-point shooting com-petition at halftime, ahead of Guy Goodes, the Maccabi player who is currently with Caserta of the Italian second division.

High scorers for the West: Aleksandr Djorjevic Vladimir Stepania 18, Predrag Danilovic 13, East: Arturas Karnishovas 19,

Drobnjak 18, Byron Scott 18. East: 4-Byron Scott (gnard, Panathinaikos), Bazarevic (guard, T.T. Ankara), 6Damir Mulaomerovic (guard,
Cibona Zagreb), 7-Petar
Naumoski (guard, Efes Pilsen), 8Rashard Griffith (center, Maccabi
Tel Aviv), 9-Nicos Economou (forward, Panathinaikos), 10-Oded Katash (guard, Maccabi Tel Aviv), 11-Gintaras Einikis (center, Autodor Saratov), 12-Nadav Henefeld (forward, Maccabi Tel Aviv), 13-Arturas Karnisovas (forward, Olympiakos), 14-Dino Radja (center, Panathinaikos), 15-Predrag Drobnjak (center, Partizan Belgrade). Coach: Dusan lykovic

(Olympiakos Piraeus). West: 5-Predrag Danilovic (forward, Kinder Bologna), 6-David Rivers (guard, Teamsystem Bologna), 7-Gregor Fucka (forward, Teamsystem), 8-Zlejico Rebraca (center, Benetton Treviso). 9-Zoran Savic (center. Kinder Bologna), 10-Aleksandar Djordevic (guard, Barcelona), 11-Vladimir Stephania (center, Union Olymipija), 12-Wendell Alexis (forward, Alba Berlin), 13-Alberto Herreros (forward, Real Madrid). 14-Antoine Rigaudeau (guard. Kinder Bologna), 15-Vassilij Karassev (guard, Alba Berlin). Coach: Ettore Messina (Kinder

# Woods, Hingis voted as top athletes of 1997

Woods has a smile that won the hearts of even non-golf fans and a game that matched outlandish

hype.
With that combination, he pushed his sport to unprecedented popularity in 1997 and became one of the most talked about personalities in the world.

Woods, whose success on the course - where he won five times and set the PGA Tour single-season money record - matched his social and economic impact off it. yesterday became the first golfer voted Male Athlete of the Year by The AP in 26 years.

The athletes were chosen by a panel of US print and broadcast reporters.

The award came as a birthday present for Woods, who turned 22 yesterday.

"I thought I bad a good year, but never expected this," said Woods, whose record-shanering victory in the Masters last April was also voted sports Story of the Year by the AP.

Woods was the first golfer to be honored as Male Athlete of the Year by the AP since Lee Trevino in 1971 and is only the fifth golfer to receive the award since it was instituted in 1931.

He joins Gene Sarazen (1932), Byron Nelson (1944-45), Ben Hogan (1953) and Trevino in receiving the award. It is an honor never won by Jack Nicklaus or Amold Palmer.

Woods finished with 231 points in the voting to easily outdistance the NFL's Detroit Lions running back Barry Sanders, who had 100 points, and boxer Evander Holyfield, third with 98 points. Sanders joined Eric Dickerson

and O.J. Simpson this year as the only NFL players to rush for more than 2,000 yards in a season. Holyfield lost a piece of his ear, but retained the WBA heavyweight title in June when Mike

Tyson was disqualified for biting him twice. Rounding out the top-five vote getters were the NBA's Michael Jordan and the NFL's Brett Favre. Basebailer Ken Griffey Jr. was sixth, followed by auto racer Jeff

Gordon, baseballer Roger Clemens and Mark McGwire and ice hockey star Mario Lemieux. Woods likely won the award as



for the dramatic, aggressive style for heads of state. of play and ethnic mix in an overwhelmingly white game made him an almost unbelievable marketing

And he was the equal of the hype. Woods won the opening tournament of the year in dramatic fashion when he nearly made a hole-in-one on the first playoff hole at the Mercedes

Championships in January. He then took the Asian Honda Classic the next month in Thailand, his mother Tida's home-

performance. His enthusiasm, flair live TV coverage usually reserved award shouldn't come as a sur-

His victory at the Masters in April was by a record-shattering 12 strokes and took on added social significance that put golf on the front pages because Woods not only became the first non-white to win a major golf championship but also did h at Augusta National Golf Club, a virtual symbol of racial separation in the sport. Woods' father is black and his

mother is from Thailand. Martina Hingis That Martina Hingis won The

After all, she captured just about everything else in 1997. "1997 was a dream come true for me," the 17-year-old tennis diva said from her home in Switzerland. I still sometimes

can't even believe it." She won the Australian Open in January, then followed up with victories at Wimbledon and the US Open, three of the four tournaments that make up the Grand Slam. In the fourth one, the French Open in June, she suffered her first

The Paris defeat came after she underwent knee surgery after she fell from a horse for the second time in the year. An earlier fall in Australia didn't hamper her march to the year's first Grand Slam

tournament crown.

Hingis was chosen with 92 firstplace votes and a total of 363 points. Golfer Annika Sorenstam finished second with 20 first-place votes and 178 points.

Soccer player Mia Hamm was third with nine first-place votes

Chamique Holdsclaw received 8 first-place votes and 69 points. Basketball player Cynthia Cooper

was fifth with 67 points. Rounding out the top 10 were figure skater Tara Lipinski (66 points), track and field star Marion Jones (35), boxer Christy Martin (34), tennis player Venus Williams (25) and figure skater Michelle Kwan (22)..

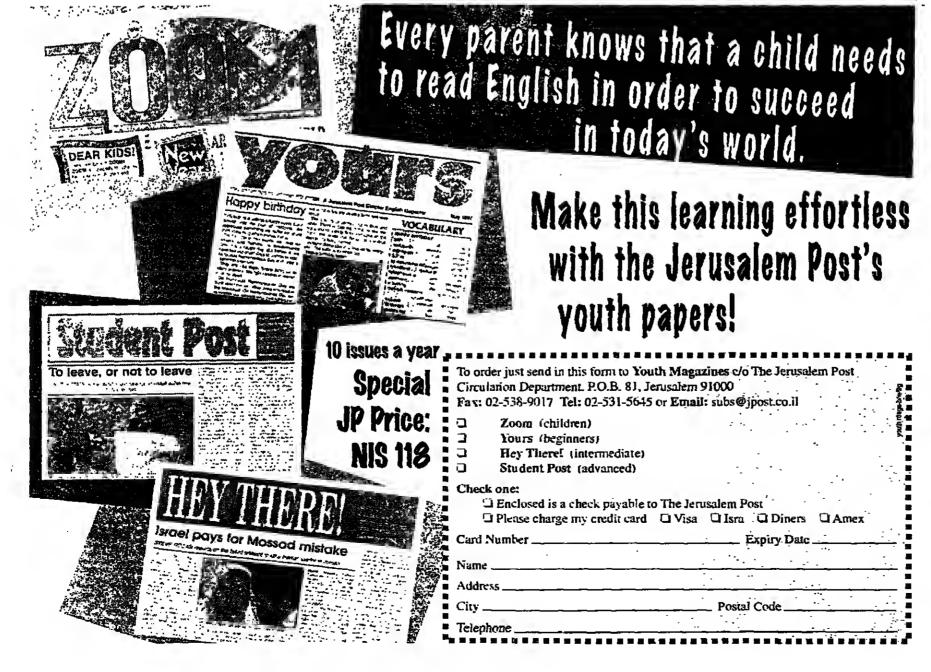
Trained to be a champion from birth, Hingis was named after tennis star Martina Navratilova. And in 1996, Hingis had the kind of year Navratilova had in 1983. winning the Australian, Wimbledon and the US Open, stumbling only in the fourth round at the French Open. Hingis fin-ished this year with a 75-5 record, won 12 titles and earned \$3.4m exclusive of endorsements.

Vivacious and nearly always smiling, on and off the court. Hingis showed both a free spirit and a fiery tenacious will to win-When she wasn't riding horses. she would be rollerblading through a park alongside her mother and coach, Melanie Molitor, both of them unconcerned about potential injury. When Hingis hurt her knee before the French Open, she proudly spoke of going through the surgery, saying that now she could really say that she's an ath-

No doubt Hingis benefited from the absence of injured Steffi Graf most of the year, and the inability of former No. 1 Monica Seles to regain her form and confidence after a series of injuries. But whenever that fortuitous absence of top competition was pointed out to her, Hingis confidently responded that she was on the rise and their time was passing any-

Indeed, Hingis became the youngest winner of the Australian, the youngest at Wimbledon in 110 years and the second-youngest winner of the US Open after Tracy

Austin in 1979. Hingis, who grew an inch and put on 15 pounds during the year to reach 5-foot-7 (170 cms), 130 pounds (59 kg), said her two most significant matches came in the French semifinals against Seles and the US Open final against



# Former soccer great Finney knighted by Queen Elizabeth

LONDON (AP) — Former England winger Tom Finney is to be knighted and fiery Welsb striker Mark Hughes gets the MBE in the New Year's Honors List, announced yesterday by Queen Elizabeth II. Often outspoken racehorse trainer Jenny Pitman, the only woman to

have trained a Grand National winner, and Martin Johnson, the lock forward who led the British Lions to a series victory in South Africa in the summer, both will receive the OBE. Tessa Sanderson, the 1984 Olympic javelin champion who appeared

in her sixth games in Atlanta last year having first competed in Moscow in 1980, receives the more prestigious OBE to go with the MBE she received in 1985. Jack Rowell, who stepped down as England's rugby union coach after

leading the team to a Five Nations Championship Grand Slam, three Triple Crowns and a World Cup semifinal, gets the OBE while Scottish international coelleges. First Leichter tional goalkeeper Jim Leighton, set to play in next year's World Cup just short of his 40th birthday, receives the MBE. Finney, now in his mid-70s, stayed loyal to his team, Preston North End, during an illustrious 13-year career which ended in 1959 after

scoring 187 goals in 431 League games and 30 goals for England in Hughes, who made his name with Manchester United and also played in Spain for Barcelona, won four FA Cup winners medals, the latest with his current club, Chelsea, last season.

The OBE also goes to Squadron Leader Andy Green, who drove the Thrust supersonic car to a world land-speed record 763.035 mph (1.227.9 kph) or Mach 1.02 in Nevada's Black Rock Desert in October, .02 faster than the speed of sound.

Peter Goss, a racing sailor who turned back in heavy seas during a round-the-world yacht race to rescue fellow competitor Raphael Dinelli of France, also receives the OBE.

Although knighted for his music, Elton John is also owner of Watford soccer club of the second division.

# Weah under the knife

MILAN (Reuters) - Former world soccer player of the year George Weah had successful surgery in Milan yesterday for a

The AC Milan striker is expect-ed to be out of action for about two months after the operation for the injury between the fourth and fifth vertebrae of bis back.

